

SUGGESTED 25¢ DONATION



A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED BY THE CALGARY INTERGROUP OF AA

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

Central Office News

NEW FROM THE GRAPEVINE

Two new books have arrived at Central Office: *Free on the Inside* and *Fun in Sobriety*.



REGULAR OFFICE HOURS

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

HOLIDAY CLOSURES

CANADA DAY
Friday, July 1, 2022
& Saturday, July 2, 2022

AA Central Service Office
4021 – 4 St. S.E.
Calgary, Alberta T2G 2W4
centraloffice@calgaryaa.org
www.calgaryaa.org

39th Annual Gratitude Roundup!!

Save the dates!!

When: June 10, 11, 12, 2022

Where: Glenmore Inn, 2720 Glenmore Trail S.E.,
Calgary, AB

Reservations call 403-279-8611 or
visit: <http://www.glenmoreinn.com>

What: Roundup Features include: Fellowship-Speaker Meetings- AA Workshops - Ice Cream Social - AA Literature Table- AA Archives Display- Al-Anon Literature Table - World's Largest Gratitude Globe.

Details on tickets and registration will be coming soon. Keep watching our website:
<http://www.gratituderoundup.com>
for updates.

Sponsored by Calgary General Service Committee

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	cgsc treasurer@gmail.com	Secretary	cgscsecretary@gmail.com
Treatment Chair	cgsc treatment@gmail.com	Corrections Chair	cgsc corrections@gmail.com
C.P.C. Chair	cgsc cpc@gmail.com	Grapevine Chair	cgsc grapevine@gmail.com
Records & Registration Chair	cgsc records@gmail.com	Intro to Service Chair	cgsc intro@gmail.com
Bridging the Gap Chair	cgsc btg@gmail.com	Intergroup/CGSC Liaison	cgscintergroup@gmail.com

MEETING CHANGES:**NEW MEETINGS / BOOK STUDIES:**

NEW: PPG taking over hosting Downtown Saturday Night (8pm) – Nexem Building North Tower

Centre Open AA Beginners Meeting – Commencing Monday, May 2, and will meet every Monday night at 7 – 8 pm. Centre of Hope, 420-9th ave, SE, Calgary. Further contact: Harry P. at 403-612-0228 or Central Service Office at 403-777-1212.

MEETING CHANGES

New Beginnings - Effective May 01, Friday 8:00 PM and Saturday 8:00 pm meeting time will be changed to 7:30 pm. Security will be locking the building doors at 7:45 PM. Monthly birthday meeting time will also be changed to 7:30 PM, still held at the Shepard King Lutheran Church

Starting April:

Airport AA meeting is temporarily closing our in-person meetings until further notice, effective immediately. We meet at the Danish Lutheran Church at 210-10th Ave NE, on Wednesdays at 8:00 pm.

MEETING INFO - REOPENING MEETINGS**Starting April:**

Better Days Group – Return to in-person meeting, Saturday, Room opens at 7:30, Meeting starts at 8 pm, 1432-19st NE, Calgary



Overcomers – started up again, Wednesdays from 7:30-8:30 pm, Cornerstone Christian Assembly/King of Glory, 2640 Rundelawn Road, NE – parking is in the back, entrance at the door with the yellow awning

CANCELLED MEETINGS

West End Step and Tradition – Online Saturday night meetings are cancelled as of end of April

Better Days Group – Online Tuesday and Thursday meetings are cancelled as of March 30.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

May 2022						June 2022			
ABC		McKenzie Towne		Whitesheep		Airdrie Country		Regal	
Christine	11 years	Josh B.	3 years	Norm B.	3 years	Ute B	12 years	Taylor I.	7 years
Byron L.	23 years	Jennifer R	5 years	Leslie Y.	3 years	Awakening	14 years	Ted M.	45 years
Karen O.	32 years	Tiffany T.	6 years	Jamieson	3 years	Awakenings		Rule 62	
Annelies	33 years	Denis L.	11 years	Brian N.	7 years	Graham	3 years	Sarah M	8 years
Tim S.	41 years	Rafal K.	12 years	Sven G.	8 years	Chris M	5 years	SMOG	
Awakenings		Shelley A.	15 years	Dan R.	12 years	Gerry A	43 years	Wyatt V	1 year
Ian H.	8 years	Bonnie F.	25 years	Gary O.	50 years	Back from Hell		Patrick D	1 year
Deb W.	12 years	Brent C.	28 years	Garnet		Candice	5 years	Terri L	3 years
Keith S.	15 years	James C.	28 years	Richard	1 year	Brad H	8 years	Tasha L	3 years
Trevor	20 years	Wayne C.	40 years	Nadia S	1 year	Better Days		Scott L	3 years
Back from Hell		NADZIEJA		Ray H	2 years	Ida S	39 years	Tanner P	3 years
Murray	14 years	Hubert K.	2 years	Sean G	2 years	Deer Ridge Group		Kirsty B	4 years
Central Recovery		Lukasz B.	2 years	Kyla P	3 years	Lara	2 years	Natalie R	7 years
Dave M.	14 years	Iwona K.	3 years	Case	6 years	Rachelle6	6 years	Brian D	20 years
Deer Ridge Group		Krzysztof M.	12 years	Nicole R	8 years	Paul	10 years	Thursday Night Ladies	
Taylor Y.	5 years	Yoanna O.	13 years	Marty B	17 years	Peter	16 years	Erica F	8 years
Katie M.	12 years	Ogden		Bea G	41 years	Nancy	18 years	Unity	
Harold	14 years	Diane D.	7 years	Heather	50 years	Tammy	30 years	Linda V	8 years
Cliff B.	33 years	Nicole R.	8 years	Glermore		Denny	32 years	Brian D	11 years
Edgemont		Roy F.	30 years	Jen B	3 years	Margot	39 years	Jim H	21 years
Kellem	18 years	Rule 62		AJ	9 years	Edgemont		Iva P	38 years
Dave R.	20 years	Larry	8 years	Melissa R	12 years	Brent M	24 years	Walking Eagle	
June J.	20 years	Nate	8 years	Dave W	16 years	Kincora		Leanne F	16 years
Tom W.	24 years	SMOG		Jim H	25 years	David M	33 years	Whitesheep	
Fraser G.	50 years	Tiffany S.	1 year	Heather	35 years	Emillian	35 years	AJ S.	14 years
Homeward Bounder		Evan H.	1 year	New Beginnings		Knox Nooners		David G	30 years
Darolyn	3 years	Judy V.	2 years	Corrinna	1 year	Deborah	5 years	<div></div> <div>Happy birthday, everyone!</div> <div>So much sobriety... thank you!</div> <div></div>	
Kathy	6 years	Dave C.	5 years	Shannon	8 years	MAAT			
Kincora		Harvey N.	5 years	Jill L	9 years	Grant C	37 years		
Linda W.	7 years	Ian H.	8 years	Ken A	11 years	Midnapore			
Mauree	11 years	Heather	35 years	Clarence	27 years	Wayne G	6 years		
Knox Nooners		Murray Mc	49 years	Northwest Group		Tammy M	6 years		
Brian S.	25 years	Wednesday Eyeopener		Oliver	6 years	Tyler C	7 years		
Bob C.	49 years	Marty B.	17 years	Brian	31 years	Dan C	8 years		
MAAT		Dave B.	19 years	Recovery Group		Kristen B	10 years		
Eric G.	5 years	Tom M.	27 years	Susan B	3 years	Ogden			
Carol L.	33 years	Bill M.	59 years	Leanne N	4 years	Lawrence	1 year		
Other		West End Step & Trad.		Joanna C	8 years	Amber K	1 year		
Adam	1 year	Ann C.	30 years	Laura P	29 years	Kirby L	5 years		
Deer Ridge *		Homeward Bounders *		Regal Group		Deb D	11 years		
Aire	1 year	Ken H	2 years	Kyle	1 year	Don B	12 years		
Meagan	4 years	Thursday Night Ladies		Paul G	8 years	Tony K	14 years		
		Georgianne	4 years	Peter G	44 years	Shannon T	16 years		
*Names have been added to the group from last month's submission						Maryann	24 years		

LIST OF EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	DETAILS
June 10, 11, 12	39 th annual Gratitude Round-Up	Location: Glemore Inn, Calgary **See poster on front cover for details
Friday, June 17	Knox Nooners Memorial Meeting and Potluck Tribute to Al F.	Location: Knox United Church **See message on page 7
Saturday, June 25, 2022	Forest Lawn Fellowship 5 th Anniversary Alcathon	Location: Calgary *See poster for details on page 7
Saturday, July 9, 2022	Haddon Road STAMPEDE BBQ	Location: Calgary, 200 Haddon Rd. **See poster for details on page 7
July 8 & 9, 2022	Annual District 86: "Strathmore Round-Up"	Location: Strathmore, AB *See poster for details on page 7
July 8 -10, 2022	"Unity and Service": Conference Concord, California	Location: California Inperson AND online **See poster for details on page 5

Treatment Facility	AA Group for May	AA Group for June
Renfrew Fridays	New Beginnings	Rockyview
Alpha House	Tues. – McKenzie Towne Fri. – NW Group	Tues. – Garnet Fri. – Daily Reflections
Sunrise	Daily Reflections	SMOG
AARC – alternating Mon	TBD	Glenmore Group
Dream Centre	The Bridge	Forest Lawn Fellowship
Sandstone (2 nd Friday)	TBD	June 10 - Garnet

Monthly CGSC Service Commitments



Sunday Morning (9:30am) Ramada Breakfast Meeting In-person – LIVE!!	AA Group
June 5	Step and Beyond
June 12	Rule 62
June 19	ABC Group
June 26	Daily Reflections

Ongoing Monthly Intergroup Service Commitments

Phone Monitoring Dates	AA Group
May 30 – June 5	Steering Committee
June 6 - 12	Unity
June 13 - 19	Ogden
June 20 - 26	Edgemont
June 27 – July 3	Daily Reflections
July 4 - 10	Regal

CALLS FOR "SERVICE"

12 Step List (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

Bridging the Gap needs: Temporary Contacts, Committee members, Speakers for Detox centres. Interested? BTG meets every 3rd Thursday of the month at Central Office at 7pm and Zoom: 985 155 6437 Password: BTG Email: cgscbtg@gmail.com **BTG will be at Gratitude Roundup. We will be taking names for Temp. Contacts**

'Intro to Service' has formed a new Committee as of February 6, first Thursday of every month. Meetings will be held at @ 7:00PM. We will be working with All Calgary Districts, DCM, GSR, Intergroup Reps, and over the next 2 years will involve all forms of our Service Body. This will be the hottest New Committee out there. If you are Interested in service. Please contact: CGSCintro@gmail.com

MORE "Calls to Service" ...

"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."

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 cgscorrections@gmail.com or call or text volunteer- recruiting Lee H. at 403 815 3719 and we will get information sent out.

Cooperation with the Professional Community (C.P.C)

Grow in your recovery!

Attend a CPC Committee meeting!

C.P.C. is an A.A. committee offering unique service opportunities giving you a chance to carry the message directly to various industry and professional groups, either through your own network connections, or by participating in already established projects like the Doctor's Meeting and the Nurses Information session - both ongoing for many years.

Committee members can bring the A.A. message to professionals and to students at professional schools in your community, helping them to understand how and why A.A. works. A.A. has always valued friends in all professional fields. These associations have been mutually beneficial and completely in keeping with the A.A. Traditions.

We are looking for new C.P.C. members who would be interested in sharing the message of A.A. or helping to open doors to:

- Accounting Professionals
- Clergy
- Criminal Justice Students
- EAP Providers
- Educators
- Health Care Professionals
- HR Professionals
- Legal and Law Enforcement Professionals
- Medical and Nursing Students
- Not-for-profits
- Unions
- Etc., etc., etc.



Attend a C.P.C. Committee Meeting on Zoom, 2nd Thursday of every month at 7:00 pm
Contact the C.P.C. Committee for more information at cgscpc@gmail.com

Public Information Committee (PI committee):

- continues to look for committee members. If this interests you at all or if you would like to learn more about what Public Information is all about please feel free to join us.

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 and/or if interested in copy of digital poster above:

pichair.calgary@gmail.com

YOU ARE NOT ALONE
Help is here!

If you think you have a problem with alcohol...

24 Hr Calgary AA: - 403-777-1212
24 Hr Crisis Line: - 403-264-HELP (4357)
Calgary AA meetings: - www.caa.org
AA Main Website: - www.aa.org
AA Info and Brochures: - http://www.aa.org/pages/en_us/9-aa-for-you

AA Meeting App: "Meeting Guide"
- A.A. World Service
Download on: App Store or Google Play

Calgary Alcoholics Anonymous

The June 2022 Issue of GRAPEVINE is here!



On the Cover: This issue is for "Stories by Longtimers"

To view the Table of Contents, click here.

Some stories include:

51 Years of Peeling the Onion

One day in 1971 he listened to that still small voice and made a decision. What an adventure it's been

Staying Green

At 81, with 50 years sober, she's traveled the world both in person and virtually and plans to keep on growing

Sober in '69<https://www.aagrapevine.org/magazine/2020/oct/lets-make-deal>

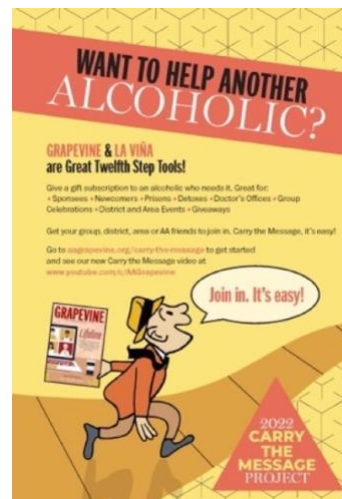
I came into AA in 1969. I was 19 years old. I had hit a low bottom, landing in hospitals and jails, and surviving bad car and motorcycle accidents.

The Boisterous Bunch

Hey, it was the 80s. We were rowdy and having fun. But we stayed sober and we had each other's backs

Not Quite Bulletproof

Sober since 1974, a member shares about getting older, staying sane and yes, never letting his guard down



FOREST LAWN FELLOWSHIP

5th Anniversary Alcahthon
Saturday June 25th - 2022
1830 52 Street S.E
Clayburn Center

SCHEDULE:

DOORS OPEN AT 8:45am
 9:00am - Step 1 - 2 - 3
 10:30am - Step 4
 12:00pm - Step 5
 1:30pm - Step 6-7
 3:00pm - Step 8-9
 4:30pm - Step 10-11
 6:00pm - Step 12
 7:30pm - Speaker



In the Spirit of The Fellowship



EVERYONE WELCOME
Hamburgers All Day
Come to Back of Building

GARNET BLOCK
SOBER DANCES
Last Saturday Every Month

Hot
Dogs
and
Snacks

Door
Prizes
and
50/50
Draw



WILDROSE United Church 1317 1st NW
DOORS OPEN AT 8:00 PM DANCE AT 9:00 PM

Cost — \$10.00 per person—Under 12 Free

Music by Aurora Nights or Jeremy

Fun Fellowship and Recovery!

ROCK THE BLOCK!

First Dance starts May 28th

KNOX NOONERS

**Memorial Meeting and Potluck Tribute
 to Al F. (Big Al)**

Friday, June 17: Open meeting – 12 – 1
 Potluck – 1 – 2
Knox United Church, 506-4th St. S.W.

*All Welcome! Food contributions are welcome. 7th
 tradition will be observed.*

Further Info Contact: Harry P., 403-612-0228

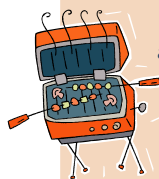
**Events, Info
 and
 Updates!!**

**Stampede
 BBQ**

*Fellowship for all ages,
 Live Entertainment,
 Best 'Western Attire' Contest*

Saturday July 9

10:30am - 4:00pm
200 Haddon Rd. SW



Denis G.

**and the Common Welfare Band
 with Special Guests**

**Hot dogs
 Potato Salad
 Pop and Water**

ANNUAL DISTRICT 86 STRATHMORE ROUND-UP July 8-9, 2022



Venue: Centennial Civic Centre,
120 Brent Blvd, Strathmore, Alberta

Cost: 7th Tradition

Friday:	6:00 – 9:00 pm	Set-up
	9:00 – finished	Campfire Meeting – Everyone welcome (Bring your own lawn chair)
Saturday:	9:00 – 10:00 am	Registration & Refreshments
	10:00 – 11:00 am	Fellowship Call up meeting
	11:00 – noon	SPEAKER – Curtis F (Strathmore)
	12:00 – 1:30 pm	Lunch break (7 th Tradition)
	1:30 – 2:30 pm	ALANON SPEAKER – Linda W (Calgary)
	2:30 – 3:15 pm	Fellowship Call up meeting
	3:15 – 4:15 pm	SPEAKER – John G (Calgary)
	4:15 – 5:00 pm	Social & Refreshments
	5:00 – 6:30 pm	Banquet (7 th Tradition)
	6:30 – 7:30 pm	SPEAKER – Anita D (Vegreville, AB)
	7:45 – 8:30 pm	Sobriety Countdown – Raffle draws – 50/50 draw
	8:30 pm	Take down and clean up (humbly ask for everyone to help)

RAFFLE TABLE DONATIONS WELCOME

ACCOMMODATIONS
Strathmore Ag Society Campground (Located within walking distance from Civic Center) with service reservations 403.325.0794

QR CODE to website



STRATHMORE HOTEL RESERVATIONS
Days Inn & Suites by Wyndham Strathmore - 400 Ranch Market (403) 934-1134
Best Western Strathmore Inn - 550 Alberta #1 highway (403) 934-5777
Travelodge by Wyndham Strathmore - 350 Ridge Rd (403) 901-0000
Westlake Inn Strathmore - 450 Westlake Rd (403) 934-1808
Wheatland Hotel - 960 Westridge Rd (403) 934-4000

Contacts

Randy 403.461.6964 Michelle 403.629.6396 Deanne 403.361.3086

District 86

Airdrie – Carstairs – Chestermere – Irricana – Rockyford – Siksa – Strathmore

JULY 8 - 10, 2022 UNITY & SERVICE

An A.A. Conference Focused on
Applying the 12 Traditions & 12
Concepts in All Our Affairs

**ATTEND IN PERSON - \$45 REGISTRATION
OR ONLINE - \$35 SUGGESTED REGISTRATION**

**THE HILTON - CONCORD, CA
SPECIAL HOTEL ROOM RATES**

FRIDAY NIGHT MEET & GREET NACHO BAR
SATURDAY NIGHT SPEAKER BANQUET
SUNDAY CONCEPTS BREAKFAST
ADDITIONAL FEE FOR MEAL OPTION EVENTS



**SPACE IS LIMITED!
REGISTER TODAY
SCAN CODE OR VISIT:**

WWW.UNITYANDSERVICECONFERENCE.ORG

info@unityandserviceconference.org
(925) 222-5639



SPEAKERS

LINDA CHEZEM
CLASS A TRUSTEE, GSB CHAIR

JIMMY D.
AA MEMBER RIGHTS &
RESPONSIBILITIES
Dallas, TX

CHUCK & BETH H.
3 LEGACIES IN RELATIONSHIPS
Destin, FL

REILLY K.
12 CONCEPTS
Winston, OR

KAREN C.
SPONSORSHIP
Oakland, CA

ANDREW S.
Marin, CA

**WITH AL-ANON
PARTICIPATION**

More speakers to be announced...

Presented by
the Love & Service Group of A.A.

Delegates' Corner!! (...a word from our Delegate for Area 78)

What a trip...What a trip!

Walking through the time in New York - before, during and after the 72nd Conference is like nothing I've ever experienced. I love New York and I never in a million years thought I would ever say that. It is clean, friendly and lovely. Everyone walks everywhere. The work that is put into carrying the message from the staff, Trustees, Directors and overall Conference members is so heartwarming. It took me quite a while after coming home to sort through it all. I still haven't finished. My soul keeps moving around the experience.

The 10 days were in sections. First there was the site-seeing my sister and I did. Some on our own and some with Carolyn and Rio, from BC/Yukon, Richard from Manitoba. Later, we joined up with Irma and Glenn from Sask.

The next part was also prior to the conference when we had the Remote Communities Meeting, the open Hospitality meet and greet and then the Delegate's Only meeting. The Co-chairs for the next Conference are Richard, from area 80 (Manitoba), Janet F from Area 23 (Southern Indiana) and myself.

The next phase was with our Committee work. Each committee meet for 10-12 hours over 3 days. Also on those days were many reports, workshops, presentations and something they called the Fishbowl discussions. I learned so much and appreciated the hard work done by the committees and staff throughout the year between conferences.

The last three days were dedicated solely and completely to the committee recommendations and considerations. This was followed by floor actions put forward at the conference itself. These were long, inspiring and soul filling hours. Watching all our Traditions and Concepts put into action was really something. Every voice was heard, every question answered and all put into thoughtful consideration, no matter how long it took.

The final part was after the Conference. Two busloads of us, with our Plus One were given a tour of the GSO, Archives and Grapevine offices. Seeing all the offices, each identified with either a position or committee name felt like a family member.

All told, the trip was a trip! So very grateful for the opportunity to take our voice, then return with the entire Conference voice.

Now for a little Pony Express Update of what's been going on:

1. **Regional Forum** June 3-5 in Winnipeg
2. **Stories** are requested for: 5th Edition of the Big Book & pamphlets: "A.A. for the Black and African-American Alcoholic", "AA for the Native North American", and "AA for the Older Alcoholic"
3. **WRAASA** (our Regional Service Assembly) is set for Feb 24 - 26, 2023
4. **CPC** (Cooperating with the Professional Community) is participating with GSO in the American Academy of Physicians Assistants Conference in **Calgary** on **June 17 - 19, 2022**. Volunteers are needed. Contact Ron (cpc.72@area78.org)
5. **GSC Delegate Report** Districts/Groups can request the report for their members; email delegate.72@area78.org
Two Reports online will be given Tues, July 19 and Mon, July 25 @ 7-9pm Zoom: 780 555 5414 password: area78

In loving service,

Tami

Step 6 & Tradition 6

Step 6 – Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.

So Step Six—"Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character"—is A.A.'s way of stating the best possible attitude one can take in order to make a beginning on this lifetime job. This does not mean that we expect all our character defects to be lifted out of us as the drive to drink was. A few of them may be, but with most of them we shall have to be content with patient improvement. The key words "entirely ready" underline the fact that we want to aim at the very best we know or can learn.

How many of us have this degree of readiness? In an absolute sense practically nobody has it. The best we can do, with all the honesty that we can summon, is to try to have it. Even then the best of us will discover to our dismay that there is always a sticking point, a point at which we say, "No, I can't give this up yet." And we shall often tread on even more dangerous ground when we cry, "This I will never give up!" Such is the power of our instincts to overreach themselves. No matter how far we have progressed, desires will always be found which oppose the grace of God.

Some who feel they have done well may dispute this, so let's try to think it through a little further. Practically everybody wishes to be rid of his most glaring and destructive handicaps. No one wants to be so proud that he is scorned as a braggart, nor so greedy that he is labeled a thief. No one wants to be angry enough to murder, lustful enough to rape, gluttonous enough to ruin his health. No one wants to be agonized by the chronic pain of envy or to be paralyzed by sloth. Of course, most human beings don't suffer these defects at these rock-bottom levels.

We who have escaped these extremes are apt to congratulate ourselves. Yet can we? After all, hasn't it been self-interest, pure and simple, that has enabled most of us to escape? Not much spiritual effort is involved in avoiding excesses which will bring us punishment anyway. But when we face up to the less violent aspects of these very same defects, then where do we stand?

From Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, p.65-66.

Tradition 6 – An A.A. group ought never endorse, finance or lend the A.A. name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.

The moment we saw that we had an answer for alcoholism, it was reasonable (or so it seemed at the time) for us to feel that we might have the answer to a lot of other things. The A.A. groups, many thought, could go into business, might finance any enterprise whatever in the total field of alcoholism. In fact, we felt duty-bound to throw the whole weight of the A.A. name behind any meritorious cause.

Here are some of the things we dreamed. Hospitals didn't like alcoholics so we thought we'd build a hospital chain of our own. People needed to be told what alcoholism was, so we'd educate the public, even rewrite school and medical textbooks. We'd gather up derelicts from skid rows, sort out those who could get well, and make it possible for the rest to earn their livelihood in a kind of quarantined confinement. Maybe these places would make large sums of money to carry on other good works...

Yes, we of A.A. did dream those dreams. How natural that was, since most alcoholics are bankrupt idealists. Nearly every one of us had wished to do great good, perform great deeds, and embody great ideals. We are all perfectionists who, failing perfection, have gone to the other extreme and settled for the bottle and the blackout. Providence, through A.A., had brought us within reach of our highest expectations.

Whereupon we tried A.A. hospitals—they all bogged down because you cannot put an A.A. group into business; too many busybody cooks spoil the broth. A.A. groups had their fling at education, and when they began to publicly whoop up the merits of this or that brand, people became confused. Did A.A. fix drunks or was it an educational project? Was A.A. spiritual or was it medical? Was it a reform movement?...

These adventures implanted a deep-rooted conviction that in no circumstances could we endorse any related enterprise, no matter how good. We, of Alcoholics Anonymous could not be all things to all men, nor should we try.

From Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, p.155-156.