



Heart to Heart



Tradition 7

May 2008

Responsibility Declaration

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.

Please read and pass around

Regina AA Intergroup

THIS ISSUE: "BIRTHDAYS", "MEETINGS", "ROUND-UPS", "STEP FIVE"

REGINA AA INTERGROUP OFFICE:

**#312 – 845 BROAD STREET
BROAD STREET BUSINESS CENTRE**

E-mail: a.a@sasktel.net

OFFICE HOURS: Monday, Wednesday & Friday

12:00 pm – 5.00 pm

Closed Statutory Holidays

24 Hour Answering Service (306) 545-9300

Go to www.aaregina.com for more information.

MEETINGS MEETINGS

NEW LOCATION – RED ROAD GROUP

1801 Toronto Street (& 11th Avenue)

Wednesdays at 8:00 pm

* Smoking

* Closed Meeting

BIRTHDAYS BIRTHDAYS

NU-LIFE GROUP

WAYNE H.	May 27	19 years
CHUCK S.	May 31	32 years
JANE F.	June 3	14 years
RHONDA P.	June 9	13 years

43rd GROUP

CHEYENNE	May 13	19 years
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HOME AWAY FROM HOME 12x12 GROUP

PERCINE R.	June 1	4 years
MARVIN D.	June 5	6 years

ONE WAY GROUP

KURT R.	May 13	3 years
JACK L.	May 28	2 years
TERRY Mc.	May 30	22 years
TREVOR L.	June 1	10 years

All birthday submissions can be sent to Central Office before the 15th by email (a.a@sasktel.net) or by phone (545-9300 during office hours).

NEW GROUP – CUPAR

Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m.

Lutheran Church basement, Cupar

*Closed Meeting (Open Meeting last Tuesday of the month only)

Not sure where or what time a meeting is?

CHECK IT OUT at www.aaregina.com

Want to know when the next Roundup is?

CHECK IT OUT at www.aaregina.com

Wonder how many days you have been sober?

CHECK IT OUT at www.aaregina.com

What positions are available for Intergroup?

CHECK IT OUT at www.aaregina.com

ROUND UPS ROUND UPS

PRINCE ALBERT GATEWAY ROUND-UP

June 6-8, 2008

Exhibition Centre

6th Avenue East & Exhibition Drive

Call Central Office @ 545-9300 during office hours for details.

MANITOU BEACH 10TH ANNUAL FAMILY CAMP-OUT ROUND-UP

July 18 - 20, 2008

Manitou Beach Regional Camp-Grounds
(3 miles north of Watrous)

Call Central Office @ 545-9300 during office hours for details.

SASKATCHEWAN YOUTH ROUND-UP

July 25-27, 2008

Manitou Beach Regional Camp-Grounds
(3 miles north of Watrous)

Call Central Office @ 545-9300 during office hours for details.

APRIL INTERGROUP CONTRIBUTORS

43rd Group

Indian Head Group

District 17

THANK YOU!

THANKS! THANKS!

Let Literature Carry the Message, Too.

“Thank you to the Intergroup Office and the planning committees for the Melville Round-Up, the Vibank Round-up, the Area 91 Assemblies, the Regina Round-up, and the Regina Alcathon for allowing me to carry the message of recovery through literature sales at their events.”

Ed L., Office Committee Chair

FIVE FIVE

STEP FIVE

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

TRADITION FIVE

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

CONCEPT FIVE

Throughout our structure, a traditional “Right of Appeal” ought to prevail, so that minority opinion will be heard and personal grievances receive careful consideration.

(reprinted from *Alcoholics Anonymous*, pages 59, 563 and 574 with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.)

WHAT AA MEMBERS ARE ASKING

Throughout the year, many AA members and groups direct questions about AA to the General Service Office. Some issues come up time and again. What follows are a number of those questions and the answers to them:

Q. Does AA sponsor spiritual retreats?

A. While many AAs attend spiritual retreats, AA – in keeping with Tradition Six – does not sponsor such gatherings.

Q. What are the origins of the Serenity Prayer?

A. Most evidence indicates that the Serenity Prayer was written by Dr. Reinhold Niebuhr, a theologian who served for many years as dean and professor at the Union Theological Seminary in New York City. (Coincidentally, one street adjoining the building where GSO is located is Reinhold Niebuhr Place.) A service piece on the Serenity Prayer (“Origin of the Serenity: A Historical Paper” may be obtained from GSO.

Q. The facility where our group rents space requires that we obtain insurance. Does GSO have an umbrella insurance policy for groups?

A. Liability insurance of GSO cannot be extended to cover local groups. AA groups are

autonomous and not subsidiaries of GSO. Groups requiring insurance coverage might consult a local insurance agent or attorney about liability matters. Some groups have approached their landlord to see if the group can be added as a “rider” to the facility’s policy and if necessary, the group pays for the cost of the “rider” through a rent increase. In this case, the group should avoid any appearance of affiliation with the facility (e.g., the church, etc.).

Q. What is the difference between an “open” and “closed” AA meeting?

A. *Closed meetings* are for AA members only, or for those who have a drinking problem and “have a desire to stop drinking.” *Open meetings* are available to anyone interested in Alcoholics Anonymous’ program of recovery from alcoholism. Non-alcoholics may attend open meetings as observers. At both types of meetings, the AA chairperson may request that participants confine their discussion to matters pertaining to recovery from alcoholism.

Q. Why doesn’t the General Service Office give its opinion when asked for it?

A. The role of the General Service Office is to provide the accumulated shared experience of AA groups and members. Pertinent information from correspondence to GSO over the years, from AA literature and from GSO’s Archives is shared to help groups reach an informed group conscience.

Q. Is the Grapevine a part of AA?

A. Yes, the Grapevine and its Spanish-language equivalent – La Vina – are a part of Alcoholics Anonymous. To affirm the magazine’s place in the Fellowship, the 1986 General Service Conference affirmed that: “the Conference recognizes the AA Grapevine as the international journal of Alcoholics Anonymous”

Q. Is there such a thing as an AA club?

A. No. Though many clubs act as landlords for AA meetings, the meetings remain autonomous and do not involve themselves in club operations or policy. For more information, see “AA Guidelines on Clubs” from GSO.

Q. Does GSO publish meeting lists or schedules, and how do I find a meeting?

A. No, GSO does not publish meeting lists or schedules. GSO does publish a complimentary

“List of Central Offices, Intergroups and Answering Services in the U.S./Canada,” and one for overseas offices. Anyone interested in finding current meeting information should contact their nearest central office or intergroup. You can find the lists of local offices on GSO’s AA Web site at www.aa.org, on *Contact Local AA*, or by checking in the local telephone book.

Q. Is a central office or intergroup office AA?

A. Yes. Central offices and intergroups provide vital local services and Twelfth Step opportunities. A central office or Intergroup is an AA service office that involves partnership among groups in a community. A central office/intergroup is established to carry out functions common to all the groups, and it is usually maintained, supervised and supported by these groups. It exists to aid the groups in carrying the AA message. For further information, see “AA Guidelines on Central or Intergroup Offices.”

Q. Did I see a commercial for AA on television?

A. You may have seen one of the AA public service announcements (P.S.A.) for television that was approved by the General Service Conference. AA has been producing P.S.A.s for over 30 years. These short spots are not intended to promote AA or to say that AA is better than any other way of dealing with alcoholism, or that we offer the only solution. Their purpose is to share with others that they may find sobriety in AA. Our hope is that an alcoholic, or a concerned friend or relative, who hears about AA, will know that we offer a solution to alcoholism.

Q. Are specialized groups for men, women, young people, gays, doctors, lawyers, etc. a part of AA?

A. Specialized groups, provided they have no other affiliation or purpose, are part of AA and have a long history in the Fellowship. There are specialized meetings for members of certain professions, such as doctors, police officers, or airline pilots that are not listed in local directories, since they are not open to the general AA population or the public. Provided they have no other affiliation or purpose, these meetings are considered AA meetings. Our experience indicates that specialized meetings can be helpful to newcomers who may initially feel uncomfortable in the general AA

population. The General Service Office lists specialized groups with the understanding that any alcoholic arriving at one of them will not be turned away without recourse to another AA meeting. For example, a women's group may choose to open their meeting to a man for the evening if no other AA meetings is available nearby.

Q. What are the criteria for listing AA conferences, conventions, and similar events in *Box 4-5-9* and the Grapevine?

A. GSO defines an AA event as one put on by AAs, for AAs, about AA. These events must be two or more days long. There would not be enough room to list one-day events or group anniversaries.

Q. We are putting on an AA roundup, and some AA members are saying that since we are charging a registration fee for attendance, we are not acting in accordance with AA Tradition.

A. There is a big difference between "no dues or fees for AA membership" and a registration fee for an AA roundup. There are many AA roundups, conventions, and conferences and, in most cases, registration fees are charged to cover expenses. Organizers may on occasion make special arrangements for AAs who would like to attend but cannot afford to.

Q. Does GSO have information about the history of my home group?

A. GSO's Archives staff may sometimes be able to provide information about the origins and history of a group, depending on the amount of information the group has sent to GSO over the years.

Q. Who wrote Chapter 8 of the Big Book, "To Wives"?

A. Bill was the author of the "To Wives" chapter, despite the common misconception that Lois wrote it. In "*Pass It On*" (page 200), Lois says: "Bill wrote it, and I was mad...I wasn't so much

mad as hurt. I still don't know why Bill wrote it...I said to him, 'Well, do you want me to write it?' And he said no, he thought it should be in the same style as the rest of the book."

Q. Is ICYPAA (the International Conference of Young People in AA) a part of AA?

A. Yes, ICYPAA is part of AA, as are young people in AA committees at the state and regional levels, as long as the events they organize are run by AA members, for AA members, and there is no other affiliation. ICYPAA is listed in our confidential AA directories under "Special International Contacts."

(reprinted from *Box 4-5-9, February/March 2008*, with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.)

PLEASE KEEP IN TOUCH!

Please let us know of any new information for your group such as changes in meeting times, locations, and contact information. Call the office at 545-9300 during office hours or e-mail a.a@sasktel.net.

SERVICE MEETINGS

Intergroup Meeting

1st Wednesday of the month
7:30 pm at St. Paul's Cathedral,
1861 McIntyre Street

Districts 15, 17 & 18 Meetings

2nd Wednesday of the month
7:30 pm at Mount Olive Lutheran Church
2015 4th Avenue North

Intergroup Office Committee Meeting

Last Wednesday of the month
7:30pm at Central Office
#312 – 845 Broad Street

All A.A. members are welcome at service meetings. Come out and see how the program functions, get involved and try out a service position. You might be surprised at what you can do, and at what WE can do together.

Heart to Heart is the newsletter voice of Regina area AA. It is published by Regina Intergroup as a service to the AA community. It uses the basic intent of the AA Grapevine policy and mission statement as its editorial policy. Its intent is to enhance an already strong recovery community by providing a vehicle for sharing the combined recovery messages and our experiences, strengths and hopes. You and your group can contribute to its financial survival through your group and tax deductible donations to Regina AA Intergroup Office.

Any of the articles in this publication are the opinion of the writers and do not necessarily reflect official AA position.