

# Twelve Step Times



## Edmonton Alcoholics Anonymous Central Office

#205, 10544—114 ST

Edmonton, AB, T5H 3J7

Office Hours: Monday through Friday  
8.30 AM– 4.30 PM

Telephone: (780) 424 5900

Phone Service until midnight 7 days a week

[www.edmontonaa.org](http://www.edmontonaa.org)

Information, News, Meeting Lists,  
Calendar of Events

[edmontonaa@hotmail.com](mailto:edmontonaa@hotmail.com)

### Available Items at Central Office

AA & Grapevine Books, Pamphlets,  
Slogans, Newcomer Packages, Committee  
Information, Cards, Laminating Service,  
Group Handbooks, CDs, DVDs, Chips,  
Medallions, Engraved Medallions

To sign up as a volunteer for 12 Step Calls,  
go to

<http://edmontonaa.org/contact/12-step-calls/>

Step 1 and Bill W.'s letter on Tradition 1	2
Group Birthdays	3
Event List	4
Group Announcements	5-7
Grapevine & Central Office News	8

We are glad that our December Service Edition of the Twelve Step Times was such a success.

We will keep it available for download at

[www.edmontonaa.org](http://www.edmontonaa.org)

**Step 1: "We admitted we were powerless over alcohol,; that our lives had become unmanageable."**

Why all this insistence that every A.A. must hit bottom first? The answer is that few people will sincerely try to practice the A.A. program unless they have hit bottom. For practicing A.A.'s remaining eleven steps means the adoption of attitudes and actions that almost no alcoholic who is still drinking can dream of taking. Who wishes to be rigorously honest and tolerant? Who wants to confess his faults to another and make restitution for harm done? Who cares anything about a Higher Power, let alone meditation and prayer? Who wants to sacrifice time and energy in trying to carry the A.A.'s message to the next sufferer? No, the average alcoholic, self-centered in the extreme, doesn't care for this prospect - unless he has to do these things in order to stay alive himself.

Under the lash of alcoholism, we are driven to A.A. and there we discover the fatal nature of our situation. Then, and only then, do we become open-minded to conviction and as willing to listen as the dying can be. We stand ready to do anything that will lift the merciless obsession from us. (Twelve Steps & Twelve Traditions, page 24)

**Bill W. on Tradition 1: "Our common welfare should come first, personal recovery depends on A.A. unity."**

*Each member of Alcoholics Anonymous is but a small part of a great whole. A.A. must continue to live or most of us will surely die. Hence our common welfare comes first. But individual welfare follows close afterward.*

Our whole A.A. program is securely founded on the principle of humility--that is to say, perspective. Which implies, among other things, that we relate ourselves rightly to God and to our fellows; that we each see ourselves as we really are--"a small part of a great whole." Seeing our fellows thus, we shall enjoy group harmony. That is why A.A. Tradition can confidently state, "Our common welfare comes first."

"Does this mean," some will ask, "that in A.A. the individual doesn't count too much? Is he to be swallowed up, dominated by the group?"

No, it doesn't seem to work out that way. Perhaps there is no society on earth more solicitous of personal welfare, more careful to grant the individual the greatest possible liberty of belief and action. Alcoholics Anonymous has no "musts." Few A.A. groups impose penalties on anyone for non-conformity. We do suggest, but we don't discipline. Instead, compliance or non-compliance with any principle of A.A. is a matter for the conscience of the individual; he is the judge of his own conduct. Those words of old time, "Judge not," we observe most literally.

"But," some will argue, "if A.A. has no authority to govern its individual members or groups, how shall it ever be sure that the common welfare does come first? How is it possible to be governed without a government? If everyone can do as he pleases, how can you have aught but anarchy?"

The answer seems to be that we A.A.s cannot really do as we please, though there is no constituted human authority to restrain us. Actually, our common welfare is protected by powerful safeguards. The moment any action seriously threatens the common welfare, group opinion mobilizes to remind us; our conscience begins to complain. If one persists, he may become so disturbed as to get drunk; alcohol gives him a beating. Group opinion shows him that he is off the beam, his own conscience tells him that he is dead wrong, and, if he goes too far, Barleycorn brings him real conviction.

So it is we learn that in matters deeply affecting the group as a whole, "our common welfare comes first." Rebellion ceases and cooperation begins because it must; we have disciplined ourselves.

Eventually, of course, we cooperate because we really wish to; we see that without substantial unity there can be no A.A., and that without A.A. there can be little lasting recovery for anyone. We gladly set aside personal ambitions whenever these might harm A.A. We humbly confess that we are but "a small part of a great whole."

Bill W.

The A.A. Grapevine, December, 1947

# Birthdays

January

## 60 Mins To Sobriety

*Last Sunday*

Carl L.	18
Johanne J.	25
Randy W.	29
Len M.	34

## Beaumont Friday

*Last Friday*

Andrew	4
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## Beverly

*3rd Friday*

Jerry M.	4
Brian S.	15
Kim P.	15

## Breathe Easy

*First Friday*

Jac M.	14
Kirk S.	17
Doug S.	19
Pat L.	34
Cliff P.	48

## By The Books

*Last Saturday*

Tom L.	1
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## Campus

*Last Monday*

Steve D.	2
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## Capilano Step Group

*First Thursday*

Andy H.	26
Clareview BB Study	
<i>Last Wednesday</i>	
Valery S.	1
Scott B.	7
Verna H.	25
Frank B.	35
Ray K.	48

## Dolphin Group

Parminder	1
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## Eastwood Group

*2nd Monday*

Harold S.	33
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## Fulton Place

*Last Friday*

Laurie C.	1
Earl B.	5
Robert S.	18

## Hillettes #2

*Last Wednesday*

Carol A.	2
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## Lighthouse

*Last Friday*

Matty M.	15
Jim M.	34
Marcel T.	35

## Love At Work Group

*3rd Wednesday*

Malcolm M.	4
Bob P.	19

## Oilmen's

*First Monday*

Andrew M.	6
Faye E.	15
Joe T.	55

## Open Door

*Last Sunday*

Leonard D.	15
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## S.A. Sunday Breakfast

*Last Sunday*

Dave T.	8
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## S.P. 12 Steps To Serenity

*Last Monday*

Shane M.	1
Dan W.	3
Duncan M.	7

## S.P. Happy Hour

*Last Friday*

Jay S.	4
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## S.P. Millshaven

*Last Wednesday*

David C.	3
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## Shifters

*Last Saturday*

Ian U.	5
Malkit	7
Ann W.	27
Cliff S.	27
Ian G.	33

## Southside

*3rd Friday*

Luke D.	3
Mike B.	7
Gordon L.	21

## S.S.Y.P.

*Last Sunday*

Jason H.	1
Jason	2

## Strength & Hope

*Last Tuesday*

Darren J.	6
Dave B.	31

## The Why

*Last Saturday*

Coralie	3
Catherine B.	20
Bill M.	32
Holly	32

## Thus We Grow

*Last Tuesday*

Trish H.	10
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## Westend

*Last Wednesday*

Sarah H.	8
Chuck C.	43

## Westgrove

*Last Sunday*

Dan R.	6
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## Westminster

*Last Saturday*

Richelle G.	3
Mark M.	30
Cindy M	36

*Your group is missing? Birthdays are published wrongly? Please make sure Central Office has your latest, updated birthday list. There are almost 200 meetings per week in the greater metropolitan area and we are not able to hunt for information. Please do your part so we can better serve you.*

*Groups that celebrate on the first meeting of the month will have last months birthdays published.*

*Please contact us:  
edmontonaa@hotmail.com*



# Alcoholics Anonymous

## List of Events: Edmonton & Area

Subscribe to the TST Newsletter and Event List plus lots more at:  
[12steptimes.com](http://12steptimes.com)



To list your event information contact:  
 Edmonton A.A. Central Office 780-424-5900  
 #205 10544 - 114 St. NW Edmonton AB T5H 3J7  
[edmontonaa@hotmail.com](mailto:edmontonaa@hotmail.com)  
 Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30 - 4:30 pm

Visit us online at [www.edmontonaa.org](http://www.edmontonaa.org)

to view information about AA, an interactive meeting list and calendar of events.

DATE	EVENT	More Info
JANUARY 19, 2015 Monday Nights 7 pm	<b>14 WEEK STEP SERIES</b> 1380 SHERWOOD DRIVE CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE	<b>FOR INFO: LARRY 780-410-1434 OR 780-298-6540</b>  SHERWOOD PARK
JANUARY 22, 2015 Thursday Nights 7 pm	<b>14 WEEK TRADITION STUDY</b> 1380 SHERWOOD DRIVE CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE	<b>FOR INFO: LARRY 780-410-1434 OR 780-298-6540</b>  SHERWOOD PARK
JANUARY 24, 2015 1-5 PM	<b>DISTRICT 86 PRESENTS AN ARCHIVE WORKSHOP</b>  Guest Speakers:	<b>COST 7th TRADITION</b> <b>CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CENTRE</b> <b>204-1St Ave NE Airdrie Alberta</b>
FEB 3/2015 COME ON DOWN FOR 7 PM	<b>"BY THE BOOK" TUESDAY NIGHT MORINVILLE GROUP</b> 11TH ANNIVERSARY <b>EVERYONE WELCOME</b>	<b>10010-101 AVE (UPSTAIRS)</b> <b>MORINVILLE PARISH HALL</b> <b>SNACKS~GOODIES~REFRESHMENTS!</b>
Feb. 6 & 7, 2015  Fri: 6 pm Doors Open Sat: 8 am Doors Open	<b>District 40</b> <b>Beat the Midwinter Blues</b> 8535 182 St. NW Aldergrove Comm. Cente	<b>Tix: \$35</b> <b>Fri: Speaker 8 pm</b> <b>Sat: Meetings, Dinner, Speaker</b> <b>Karen M. 780-984-2797</b> <b>Edmonton</b>
FEB 13-14 2015  Fri: 6 pm Doors Open	<b>30TH ANNUAL AA WINTER ROUNDUP</b>  <b>7708- 85 STREET</b>  "WE ARE NOT A GLUM LOT"	<b>KING EDWARD PARK HALL</b> <b>\$35 TILL JAN 31</b> <b>\$40 AFTER JAN 31</b> <b>Edmonton</b>  <b>TICKETS 780-424-5900</b>
FEB. 27- MAR. 1, 2015	<b>WESTERN REGIONAL</b>  <b>AA SERVICE ASSEMBLY</b>  6024 RUNDLEHORN Dr.NE	<b>Tickets &amp; Registration</b> <b>Www.wraasa2015.com</b>  <b>CALGARY ALBERTA</b>

# GROUP ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **St. Albert Sunday Night Step Study Group**

Is moving to a new location effective Sunday,, January 18th, 2015

Next Christian Community Church

140 Saint Albert Trail

St. Albert, AB, T8N 7C8

Sundays, 7:30 PM—8:30 PM

Unfortunately, there is no wheel chair access.

New Open Meeting:

## **Seniors Insight Meeting**

Saturdays, 10 AM

9350—82 Street NW

Edmonton, AB

Use back door

Special Needs Meeting for seniors, 55+



# GROUP ANNOUNCEMENTS



## **THE WAY OUT**

**New Meeting in Grande Prairie, AB**

**Tuesdays, 8:00 PM**

**11850—108 Street**

**People's Church West Door**



## **SUPPORT NEEDED!**

**North Edmonton Group**

**Thursdays 8:00 PM**

**John Bosco Homes**

**6770—129 Ave.**

# GROUP ANNOUNCEMENTS



## THE CAMEL CLUB HAS MOVED!



The Camel Club's new address is:

8236—175 Street NW

Edmonton, AB

Sherwood Park has a young peoples meeting

Friday Night

3 Mission St. Salisbury Church

Hope for Young Adults

All are welcome

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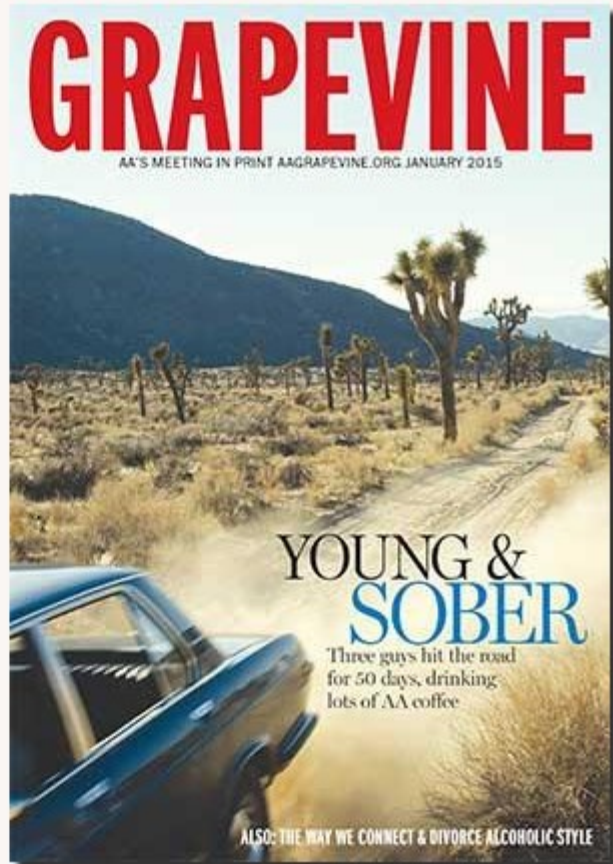
Be sure to check out the event list

For a step series and traditions study.

# The January Issue of Grapevine Is Here

**This month's special section features stories by AA members who got sober in their teens, twenties, and thirties**

It's wonderful when alcoholics find AA early in life and spare themselves years of heavy drinking. But it can be challenging to get sober young. This month's special section features inspiring stories by alcoholics who got sober in their teens, 20's and 30's.



## Central Office News

**You can now sign up as a volunteer for 12-Step-Calls at:**

**<http://edmontonaa.org/contact/12-step-calls/>**

**We serve 540 groups and meetings in Edmonton and Northern Alberta.**

**We are happy to ship orders by Canada Post or Greyhound.**

**Our office carries AA Books, Grapevine Books, Pamphlets, Cards, Chips (2hr, 1-11 months) Year coins (1-55), as well as engraved medallions .**

**Our large meeting room is available to committees and groups for workshops etc.**

**We're looking forward to serving you in the new year.**

*Your staff & management at Central Office*