



DISTRICT 11

A.A. Newsletter

FEBRUARY 2020

<http://www.whatcomaa.org/>



"We admitted we were powerless over alcohol – that our lives had become unmanageable"
eprinted from AA Big Book, page 59

Group Reports & Birthdays

Dry Dock: Sing From the Heart Karaoke - Saturday, February 29, 10pm

Birthdays for February: 32 years: Randy S.; 31 years: Jeff H., Darlene; 27 years: Caleb B.; 7 years: Kerry E., Ron N.; 5 years: Chene K., Steve K., Raymond P., Marla; 3 years: Desi W.; 2 years: Jess B., Stephanie W., Rhys M., Alyssa S., Justin H.; 1 year: Jessica J., Megan B., Mark S., Nick P., Rachael D., Matthew B.

Ferndale Unity Group :

Birthdays for February: 31yrs Sirpa T 29yrs Delpha J 25yrs Jim M 20yrs Al M 19yrs Mario M 11yrs Steve N 10yrs Cari C 9yrs Irene C 9yrs Larry E 5yrs Valerie B 4yrs JT 4yrs Dena S 4yrs Herman 2yrs Jesse A 2yrs Cheryl B 2yrs Alta B 1yr Jim 1yr Wendi H 1yr Felix G 1yr Norell H

SOS: Join us Mondays (book study) and Wednesdays (speaker meeting) at 7pm.

The SOS Men's Retreat on February 21-23 is SOLD OUT, however **SCHOLARSHIPS** are available at www.sosmen.us. The retreat is at Lutherwood Camp on Lake Samish. Charlie P. from Austin, TX will be taking us through the steps. Visit sosmen.us for more information.

Birthdays for February: 3 years: Pat (Rick) T.; 4 years: Scott (Skevin) S., Cam (Cameron) H.

Northwest: Come celebrate February birthdays with Northwest group! Potluck at 5:30 p.m. birthday meeting at 6:30 p.m. Saturday February 15, 2020

Birthdays for February: Stephanie M., Jeremy W., Devin L., with 1 year; Jack S., Mariah C., Brandi B., Rebecca B., with 2 years; Jack S., CJ H., Shayne C., with 3 years; Ernesto G., with 7 years; Albert E., with 12 years; Sophia with 13 years; Peter N., with 15 years; Wade H., with 19 years; Joann with 30 years and Jeff H., with 31 years

Women In The Solutions: Women In the Solution is a literature/solution based women's meeting with Child Care. Come have some fellowship and recovery!

Birthdays for February: 3 years: Kelsey G.; 1 year: Kathleen S.

Ongoing Volunteers Needed for:

The AA HOTLINE – 360-734-1688

phoneservice@whatcomaa.org

Ongoing volunteers are needed to take meetings to corrections and treatment facilities, AA Hotline and to speak at non-AA informational meetings. Please attend the monthly Corrections and Treatment meeting to find out the requirements for volunteering (always the 4th Thursday each month at 5:30 pm at Northwest Group)



Share Your Experience, Strength, and Hope



Submit Your Stories, Photos, Art and More!

The Grapevine, "your meeting in print" is also your meeting on the Web. Why not share? We're always accepting submissions of art or text, and you need no prior publishing experience. All it takes is a little willingness and a desire to share.

Read the [guidelines](#) for submitting, check our [editorial calendar](#) for upcoming special topics, and then use our [upload form](#).

Committee Announcement:

The Newsletter Committee is still welcoming members to write stories, write poems, and incorporate new ideas into your newsletter! We also need submissions from the AA population at large! Ask for participation in your meetings so everyone has a chance to carry the message. Let's create something everyone wants to read!

If you have something to say, write it

down and email it to:

newsletter@whatcomaa.org



Committee Reports & Meetings

Registrar - Hanna M.

We have a new meeting!

Sober Mode

1012 W Holly St.

7:30PM Wednesday Night's

Open Meeting

DCM - Aaron D.

Hello District 11!

We survived the holidays! To start out the new decade, I attended the Area Quarterly in Everett the first weekend of January. We held an Area Inventory, to ask ourselves how well, as an area, we're reaching out to the still suffering alcoholic. Many people participated and we had some problems discussed that we were able to solve right then, plus some that we will discuss in the months ahead. We had great discussion around topics like the frequency/format/content of our area newsletter, how our area can improve communication with each other and with professionals, and how we can encourage diversity of opinions and experience. You'll notice that communication was a big theme. Without communication, how could we reach the still suffering alcoholic? If the groups in our Western Washington Area didn't communicate, who's to say that an AA meeting in Olympia, let alone the other side of Whatcom County would still be an AA meeting? It's because of communication that we can share our experiences, good and bad, that will help us learn how to best help the still suffering alcoholic and ensure that Alcoholics Anonymous will survive for year to come. Also, shout out to the AA member that caught my joke in the last newsletter and called me to say he found it. It made my day!

Aaron D

District 11 DCM

Phone Service - Craig C

Districts 11 (Whatcom County) and 4 (Skagit County) AA members volunteer to answer the AA Hotline 24/7 so there is always someone available to talk to a fellow alcoholic when they call for help. It is simple, can be challenging, and is immensely rewarding, just like AA. Most hotline shifts are only 4 hrs. long: 8-noon, noon-4 pm, and 4-8 pm. Overnight shifts run from 8 pm - 8 am. Hotline calls are forwarded to your cell phone so you don't have sit by the phone waiting for someone to call. At the end of your shift you just sign out or someone else takes over. It is that simple. We provide training and resources to help you help anyone who calls. We ask for at least 4-6 months of sobriety and that volunteers have a sponsor.

12 Step volunteers are AA members who are willing to call or visit a struggling alcoholic who has requested help. A face to face meeting is always done in the company of a fellow alcoholic in recovery and are gender equal.

Right now we are in need of AA members who would like to add their names to the list of those already serving. We need both Hotline and 12 Step volunteers. If you've ever thought about getting on board with the Phone Service in the past, now is a great time because we need you! **Our next information and HOTLINE and 12 STEP CALL workshop is on Monday, March 11th at the Drydock from 7-8 pm.** But you don't have to wait until then if you're interested. Just come to one of our committee meetings on the third Thursday of every month at 6:15 at the Drydock. Or contact us by email at

Reflections

The Four Absolutes Con't: Part 2b
Love

We often learn more by questions, than by answers. Did you ever hear a question that caused you to think for days or even weeks? The questions which have no easy answer are often the key to the truth.

However, in this series on the four Absolutes, we are concerned with the questions we should be asking ourselves over and over again in life. The integrity of our answers to these questions will determine the quality of our life, may even determine the continuance of our sobriety.

A good question to ask ourselves on love might be, "Is it ugly or is it beautiful?" We are experts on ugliness. We have really been there. We are not experts on beauty but we have tasted a little, and we are hungary for more. Love is beauty. Coming from the depths of fear, physical agony, mental torture and spiritual starvation, we feel completely unloved, impregnated with self-pity, poisoned by resentment, and devoured by a prideful ego which with alcohol has brought complete blindness. We receive understanding and love from strangers and we make progress as we in turn give it to new strangers. It's as simple as that. Fortunately for us love is inspiring from the very beginning, even in kindergarten which is where many of us still are.

The old song tells us that love is a many splendored thing. In giving it we receive it. But the joy of receiving can never match the real thrill of giving. Consider that this great mission of love which is ours is seldom experienced by the non-alcoholic, and you have a new reason for gratitude. Few are privileged to save lives. Fewer have the rich experience of being God's helper in the gift of a second life.

Love is a poor man's beginning toward God. We reach our twelfth step when we give love to the new man who is poor today, as we were poor yesterday. A man too proud to know he is poor, has turned away from God with or without alcohol. We have been there too. But if he has a drinking problem, we can show him the way through love, understanding and our own experience.

When we live for our own sobriety, we again become beggars in spiritual rags, blind once again with the dust of pride and self. Soon we shall be starving with the hunger of devouring ourselves, perhaps even lose sobriety, Love is "giving of yourself" and unless we do, our progress will be lost. Each one owes the gift of this second life of sobriety to every other human being he meets in the ceaseless presence of God, and especially to other alcoholics who still suffer. Not to give of himself brings the desolation of a new poverty to the sober alcoholic.

When we offer love, we offer our life; are we prepared to give it? When another offers us love, he offers his life; have we the grace to receive it? When love is offered, God is there; have we received Him. The will to love is God's will; have we taken the Third Step? Ask yourself, "Is this ugly or is it

B'ham OldTown OldTimers

Open SPEAKERS MEETING
POTLUCK 5 PM...Please NO DESSERTS

3rd Saturday Each Month 6-8 PM

St. Paul's Episcopal Church Parish Hall
2117 Walnut Street ~Bellingham

Dec 21, 2019

Eric O.
04.01.04
15 yrs.
Ferndale
~n~
Beth S.
08.01.79
40 yrs.
Bellingham

Jan 18, 2020

Yvonne C.
12.07.87
33 yrs.
Ferndale
~n~
Bill C.
01.10.75
45 yrs.
Ferndale

Alcoholism a
Family Disease

Feb 15


Eric T.
02.15.05
15 yrs.
Rose T.
10.24.76
44 yrs.
Marc T.
08.10.75
45 yrs.

Total 103 yrs.
Sedro Woolley

Contact Trisha C. @ 360.774.0055 or email: trishac@bhamaa.org

phoneservice@whatcomaa.org. Or call the hotline at (360) 374-1688.

In love and service, Craig C



Area 72 Young People Quarterly
January 25th, 2020
10am Fellowship & Refreshments
11am-4pm Business
Host Contact: Desi 206-471-1224
Area Young Person's Chair: ypchair@area72aa.org

◆ Lunch: Pulled Pork w/ Rolls
Vegetarian/ Vegan Options
Hosted by District 17

◆ Potluck Theme: Southern Comfort
Please bring a Favorite Side or Dessert
7th Tradition Observed

◆ Location: The Vine Church
7750 21st Ave NW, Seattle, WA 98117
(enter on 21st, street parking) WC Accessible

beautiful?" If it's truly beautiful then it is the way of love, it is the way of A.A., and it is the will of God as we understand Him.



Poets Wanted Here
Your Newsletter Committee
invites you to participate in a
monthly AA Poem feature.

Please submit your original poems to:
newsletterwhatcomaa.org – 200 words or less.

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

A HOTLINE & 12 STEP CALL WORKSHOP

PHONE SERVICE VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!!

HELP CARRY THE MESSAGE TO STILL
SUFFERING ALCOHOLICS

March 11, 2020

DRY DOCK

100 E. Pine St, Room 105, B'ham
FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP @ 6:30PM

WORKSHOP @ 7PM

(Sponsored by District 4 & 11 Phone Service Committee)



GSR SCHOOL
FOR
EVERYONE

PRESENTED
BY
AREA 72
TRUSTED
SERVANTS

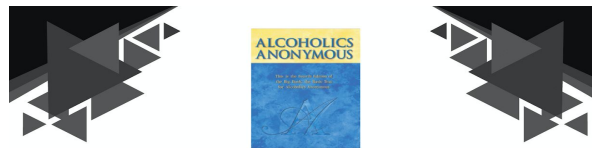
FEB
15



STARTS
10:00 AM




CORNERSTONE
CHURCH
FELLOWSHIP
HALL
5732 OLSON RD
FERNDALE

CONWAY OLDTIMERS SPEAKERS MEETING at
Fir Island Lutheran Church
18101 Fir Island,
Conway, WA.

December 21, 2019	Art C 44 years	Teri 37 years
January 18, 2020	Doug R 45 years	Wendy R 32 years
February 15, 2020	Tom B 31 years	Mari B 30 years

Potluck at 5 Speakers @ 6:00 pm
(Please bring food items only, desert is provided)
Directions: I-5 Exit 221, Conway-Lake McMurray
Head West 1/4 Mile. Take Angled Right Turn Continue
Across RR Tracks and River, Church on Right
Contact: Kelly N (425) 238-7391 or Rose N (425) 760-3323



Be The Woman You Admire

11th Annual Women Celebrating Women Luncheon
Saturday, February 8th 2020

SPEAKER: MARTY R, from Buda, TX

LOCATION: 3729 Meridian St, Bellingham, WA
Bellingham Golf & Country Club

TIME: Doors open @ 11a / Lunch @ 12n / 3p Close

REGISTRATION: \$28.50 per person

Lunch Served – Gourmet Buffet-style Cuisine
Choices of Meats and Vegetarian options, locally-sourced Salads, Fruits and Desserts

Additional Events – Raffle-Baskets, 50/50 Draw, Sobriety Countdown,
shared Experience, Strength and Hope!

Register @ Facebook: [facebook.com/PacNWWomenCelebratingWomen](https://www.facebook.com/PacNWWomenCelebratingWomen)
(search 'Annual Women's Luncheon - 2020')

OR Link to Register & Purchase tickets at TicketLeap
<https://annual-womens-luncheon.ticketleap.com>

Scholarships Available – Please contact Morgan G. at 206-972-3641

Please Be Welcomed as You Are!



Scan to access the TicketLeap Registration!




"I'm reading the Big Book on my monitor to improve
my spiritual condition too." - Steve A., Madison,
WI

Copyright © The AA Grapevine, Inc. (December, 2019).
Reprinted with permission

3RD LEGACY GROUP

SPEAKERS MEETINGS

MONDAYS IN February

SPEAKERS:

2/3 Karen K. 7PM

2/10 Tommy J. 7pm

2/17 Jacob S. 7PM

2/24 POTLUCK 6:30 PM & SPEAKER

Jeffrey B.
From The Lions Group BC

7PM HOUR LONG

BRING DISH TO SHARE!



Potluck on
the last
Monday of
the Month!

Bring your favorite
Dish!

Come Enjoy The
Fellowship

Childcare Provided

THE 3RD LEGACY GROUP
Faith Lutheran Church
2750 McLeod
Bellingham, WA 98225

Starts at 7m every Monday
except the last Monday
which starts at 6:30 to
include the Potluck!

February 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Detox, 7pm <i>** Archives Quarterly</i>
2 PCN, 7pm	3 St. Joes, 4pm	4 Detox, 7pm	5 Visions, 7pm	6 Detox, 7pm Accessibility Mtg @NW, 5:45pm	7 St. Joes 7pm	8 Detox, 7pm <i>*Women Celebrating Women Luncheon @ 11am **PI/CPC Quarterly</i>
9	10 St. Joes, 4pm	11 Detox, 7pm	12 Visions, 7pm ~Deadline for Newsletter~	13 Detox, 7pm	14 St. Joes 7pm	15 Detox, 7pm Literature Mtg. @ FUG 10:30am <i>*GSR School @ 10 am *Conway & OTOT Speaker Mtg</i>
16 <i>**Archives Work Party</i>	17 St. Joes, 4pm	18 Detox, 7pm	19 Visions, 7pm GSR District Mtg. @ Dry Dock, 6:30p	20 Detox, 7pm Phone Service Mtg. @ Dry Dock, 6:15pm	21 St. Joes 7pm	22 Detox, 7pm
23	24 St. Joes, 4pm	25 Detox, 7pm 3 rd Legacy Committee Mtg. @ Dry Dock, 6:30pm	26 Visions, 7pm	27 Detox, 7pm PI/CPC Mtg. @ Dry Dock, 6:30pm C&T Mtg. @ NW, 5:30pm	28 St. Joes 7pm	29 Detox, 7pm

*For information please visit whatcomaa.org.

**For information about quarterly committee meetings and area events go to www.area72aa.org