

Intergroup's Mission

The purpose of
Intergroup is:

To safeguard the
Twelve Traditions of
AA,

To serve the local
groups,

To help provide unity
between groups,

To perform acts as
stated in the by-laws.



For 75 years, AA has been helping people recover from alcoholism. The only requirement for AA membership is a desire to stop drinking. There are no dues or fees for AA membership.



AA Hotline

524-7729

Línea directa de hablar español

528-2994

Sobriety Corner on the Web

[http://www.idahoarea18aa.org/main/
ifalls.htm](http://www.idahoarea18aa.org/main/ifalls.htm)

Get on the Email List

12stepsteve@gmail.com

The General Services Website

<http://aa.org>

The Grapevine

<http://aagrapevine.org>

Al-Anon: 522-4947

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If your group did not receive a copy of the newsletter, you can either have your Intergroup Representative pick some up at the Intergroup Meeting, First Thursday, Serenity Hall at 6:30pm, or follow the Internet link to the left and print off a few copies for your group!

Editors Corner

Someone commented the other day — they noticed I had shaved off my beard. I said, "Well, spring is just around the corner." Someone else chimed in, "Yeah, but it is a r e a l l y big corner." So it is with the program. Simple steps, that require a determined and persistent trial and sustained effort. How much? Here is the answer: "Are you still sober?"

Balancing a new life with AA can be tricky, but if you put your AA priorities first, the other things seem to fall into place more easily. At least I have found this to be the case. In fact, if I were using common sense to guide my life today, I probably would not be typing this right now. I have a lot on my plate, but figure if the Higher Power wanted a different editor, he would have found one in the two months I waited to respond to the inquiry about the position.

What I am trying to say is that we learn and grow partly as a function of pushing out of our comfort zone. [We also need to know how to rest to make up for it.] Can you imagine how uncomfortable Bill was inviting destitute drunks from the streets of Brooklyn into his home for coffee? How big was his sacrifice? Where would we be if he had not?

Steve M.
Feb 2011



"There is however, a vast amount of fun about it all. I suppose some would be shocked at our seeming worldliness and levity. But just underneath there is deadly seriousness. Faith has to work twenty-four hours a day in and through us, or we perish."

1939 AAWS, Alcoholics
Anonymous, Bill's Story,
p.16.

Intergroup Officers

Craig W.	Intergroup Chair	419-6498	
Lew G.	Alternate Chair	521-0583	
Keith J.	Secretary	521-4080	kjewell@cableone.net
Delbert S.	Treasurer	569-1676	
Matt J.	Entertainment	521-4650	
Keith J.	Interim AA Hotline	521-4080	kjewell@cableone.net
Linda M.	Literature	520-5673	
Steve M.	Newsletter		12stepsteve@gmail.com

Other Contacts

Buttons	Bridge the Gap	200-6781
Mike C.	District Public Information	745-1510
Michell S.	H&I - Chair	339-8197
Craig W.	H & I - Correctional Work Center	419-6498
Mike C.	H&I - 3B Detention Center	745-1510
Dusty G.	H&I - ARA	681-2810
Carlos	H&I - Men's Jail	403-4119
Barbara C.	H&I - Women's Jail	523-3256
Veronica W.	H&I - Work Release	403-6693
Greg R.	Serenity Hall Information	403-5608
Claudia H.	Area H&I	525-9290



Birthdays

A Step A Month

Reflections: Step 2

"Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity."

When we read about Step Two in the Big Book, Bill goes into many different aspects of how close-minded our thinking is. In the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, he focuses on our views of spirituality.

Whether atheist, agnostic or believer, chances are good that years of drinking have left us with a legacy of rationalizing and justifying everything. For me, this skill was acquired by creating a carefully constructed defense of why I was still drinking.

As drunks, we build this huge collection of related beliefs, which, SURPRISE, become an obstacle to progress. This tangled web of justification is spider-silk-strong and keeps us from making progress.

This close-minded rationalization and justification is the insanity Bill is talking about.

We must be open-minded if we expect to have faith back in our lives. Being open-minded is a pre-requisite for being honest with ourselves and willing to change what we believe and how we act.

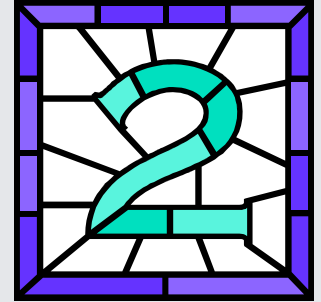
Like the spider-web silk that is hugely strong on the scale of the spider, if we choose to, we can simply raise our hand and decide to cut through the cob webs and start over, IF we truly surrender and ask a power greater than ourselves to help us be open-minded.

When approaching Step Two for the first time, it is less important to know what your higher power is than it is to have an open mind and be willing to part with ideas that are very simply not working for you. For this alcoholic, I have had to learn that my close-mindedness is responsible for a lot of wreckage in my life and that I spend

A Step A Month

(Continued)

too much time carefully constructing a seemingly coherent, rational view of things. This was nothing less than a huge set of carefully constructed lies that I told myself to help me feel good about where I was at.



In "How It Works" we read,

"Some of us have tried to hang on to our old ideas and the result was nil until we let go absolutely."

I think this is an example of just how serious being unwilling to be open-minded is.

Many of us hear this quote at every meeting and still "rebellion dogs our every step" – our resistance to changing our viewpoint could only be characterized in the clear light of sobriety as "insane." Hang in there. Step 3 is just around the corner.

Big Book Study	Lincoln
Group 2/28/2011	Member Years
Member Years	Lynn L. 26
Doug D. 23	Jessica T. 4
	Derek T. 2
Clean and Sober 2/26/2011	Meet and Eat
Member Years	Member Years
Marv S. 13	Sol 2
Happy Jack 10	
Coffee Break	New Hope and Inspiration
Member Years	Member Years
Jim C. 6	Mike F. 5
Jordan B. 5	Jose G. 1
Scott K. 4	
John D. 4	Progressive Group
Justin A. 2	Member Years
Tiffani W. 2	Mark C. 6
Kevin D. 2	Dan S. 5
Laurie J. 2	Byron R. 5
Amber N. 2	Greg H. 2
Curtis W. 2	Nick G. 1
Ryan W. 2	
Rick W. 2	Third Tradition
Chandra G. 2	Group 2/24/2011
Ted C. 1	Member Years
Kevin K. 1	Laurie C. 22
	Kelly B. 6
Firth Group	Westside Group
Member Years	Member Years
Tim M. 16	Penny A. 22
Gary W. 4	Chuck M. 4
Fresh Air	
Member Years	
Chris N. 1	
Grapevine	
Member Years	
Travis S. 5	
Great News 2/25/2011	
Member Years	
Cate C. 21	
Lennie F. 1	
Just Stay	
Member Years	
Happy Jack 10	
Jeff L. 3	



Intergroup Meeting Minutes

January 6, 2011

Meeting called to order by Craig W. at 6:45pm, 12 Traditions read by Lew G.

Secretary's Report: Minutes from December 2 meeting read and accepted.

Treasurer's Report: As of 1/05/11, General Account ending balance of \$1,883.40, Entertainment Account ending balance \$1,256.63, Prudent Reserve of \$192.35. Total deposits from Group donations were \$596.06 with donations reported of \$96.06 from Great News and \$500.00 from Lunch Bunch. A deposit of \$453.60 was made from Literature sales. Payments made were \$42.40 to Falls Printing for Newsletter, \$52.43 to Qwest for Hotline phone service, and \$9.95 for Wells Fargo Billpay service. A payment of \$254.77 was made for Literature.

Entertainment Report: Matt J. reported great success with the Christmas parties and thanked all those involved for their help and service. A total of \$545.19 was spent for the Christmas parties with \$265 for Senior Citizen's Center rent and \$280.19 for prizes, food, and supplies. An income reported from the parties was \$892.78, for a net gain of \$347.49. Matt is seeking group input for our Founder's Day picnic location (typically Sealander Park).

Literature: No report. Deposit of \$453.60 and payment of \$254.77 was made.

Hotline: Rob N. has decided to step down as Hotline Coordinator. Intergroup would like to thank him for his service during a difficult transition. Intergroup is seeking a volunteer willing to serve in this position, as well as Hotline shift volunteers. Keith J. will act as Hotline Coordinator until the position is filled.

Newsletter: Steve M. has issued the newest edition of our Newsletter with minor content changes. Steve seeks content for the Newsletter. He also reported that he printed a Spanish copy of the Newsletter for small-scale distribution. Thank you, Steve!

Old Business: Discussion of the new proposed Intergroup Guidelines is on hold pending more thorough review and input from the groups.

District 6 GSR Meeting Minutes

January 2, 2011

Meeting called to order by Tim W. at 7:00pm

12 Traditions read by Alan H.

Attendees: Tim W. – DCM, Alan C. – 3rd Tradition, Darl – Grapevine, Alan H. – Lunch Bunch, Mark H. – Westside, Keith J. – Great News, Kadie H. – Shoulder to Shoulder, Michelle S. – H&I, Rob N. – Heritage, Lew G. – Big Book, Barbara C. – Meet N' Eat, Hal T. – Secretary, Mike C. – CPC/PI, Marv W. – Treasurer.

Minutes from December meeting unanimously approved 7:05

H&I Chair Report: Account balance is \$120.29. Additional pamphlets and books are on order. Things are going well. Meetings at 3B Juvenile Detention Center will wrap up at the end of January. Meetings are now being taken into ARA. Jess H. has volunteered to keep track of H&I liaisons and what different facilities are in need of. H&I is attempting to get meetings started at Ruth House and The Haven. Service opportunities are available. Contact Michelle S. to be of service to Hospitals and Institutions.

CPC/PI Report: CPC/PI is waiting on word from the top at Shiloh Inns regarding placing A.A. literature in their guest books.

Treasurer's Report: Beginning Balance as of 12/05/2010 +\$907.38

Transactions: Income: +\$100.00 Coffee Break

+\$16.01 Great News + \$20.00 Big Book Group

Total deposits for December 2010 +\$136.01

Total Checks/Charges -\$10.00 Inter-Group News Letter

Total expenses for December 2010 -\$10.00

Ending balance as of 01/04/2011 including \$200.00 prudent reserve: +\$1033.39

Members' Column

The Children's Christmas Party ...

...was a huge success.

Thanks to everyone for the help and giving.

Thanks to all who donated money, Christmas wrap, presents, food and more. Thanks to all you beautiful ladies who gave your time and help so effortlessly. The children loved making crafts, wrapping presents and Lisa B. read them a fun Christmas Eve story that they all listened to and loved. Love and excitement filled the air and when Santa arrived they swarmed him like a bee hive. I DO BELIEVE IN SANTA! Thank you! Thank you to all the parents who brought your children to enjoy this. I feel this has given them a Christmas memory they'll always have. Thank you, Greg and Teresa for the perfect pictures with Santa. They counted around 80 children. We have truly been blessed.

I am truly grateful and hope we will all have the true spirit of Christmas with us throughout this New Year. May peace and sweet serenity be with us all.

Love,

Connie O.

Unity in Fellowship

I can relate when I hear many talk about being social misfits. The only place I ever felt comfortable was when I was getting and staying wasted...not big on conversation if you get my drift.

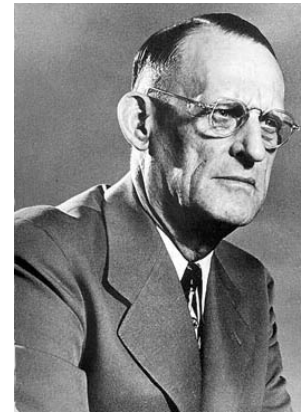
What I found for me is that when I got sober not a whole lot changed. I still didn't feel real comfortable, even in the meetings. It seemed that everyone else was getting better (laughing, talking, going out after meetings, etc) and the longer I was sober the worse I felt. When I hit the inevitable bottom in sobriety that I needed to I finally surrendered and followed the direction of a man who told me my only chance was to work the 12 Steps. Another direction he gave me was to call another alcoholic every day. At first I had nothing to say, but I did what he asked me to. I called Mark...who got sober within a week of me...every day before the 5:30 meeting to ask if he was going, that was all. While this was going on I did the actions lined out in our Big Book and something amazing happened...I started to recover from alcoholism!

In the years since then I have come to be comfortable with me just the way I am, social misfit and all. The truth is that when I just try and be a part of, rather than apart from, others do not even know I feel uncomfortable. And after hearing many dozens of 5th Steps I have seen this feeling of being different from is pretty universal in alcoholics.

The main thing for me is that I do not try and fit in where I do not belong. My experience is that Alcoholics Anonymous is full of people with whom I have nothing in common with. Many are not interested in the program of recovery that is offered, all they want is a little relief from the heat in their life. The spirit of the fellowship, where we come together with a common problem, is part of every meeting I have ever gone to. But that is not what I crave, not where I really fit in. I have found where I fit is in the Fellowship of the Spirit, and it's not found in every meeting. The founders wrote about it all through the Big Book, notably on pages 17, 50 and 164. It's the place where we come together not only in our common problem, and not even in our common solution, but in the action of doing the solution together we are united in fellowship.

My home group is such a place...a haven for those who don't fit in anywhere else, even in many AA meetings. It doesn't matter where you come from, who you came from, what you have or what you don't have. It doesn't even matter what you believe. All that matters is what you are willing to do. And when we do together what the early members did, we get what they got... permanent sobriety and content useful lives, together in fellowship. I never would have believed it until I started living it.

— Mike C.



"Dr. Bob would explain prayer by telling how the camels in a caravan would kneel down in the evening, and the men would unload their burdens. In the morning, they would kneel down again, and the men would put the burdens back on. 'It's the same with prayer,' Dr. Bob said. 'We get on our knees to unload at night. And in the morning when we get on our knees again, God gives us just the load we are able to carry for that day.'"

—Dr. Bob and the Good Oldtimers, page 229

Literature

<i>Big Book (regular)</i>	8.00
<i>Big Book (large print)</i>	8.30
<i>Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions (regular)</i>	7.40
<i>Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions (large print)</i>	7.75
<i>Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions (pocket size)</i>	5.50
<i>Daily Reflections</i>	8.25
<i>AA Comes of Age</i>	8.50
<i>Big Book (pocket size)</i>	4.00
<i>Big Book (soft cover)</i>	7.60
<i>As Bill Sees It</i>	8.00
<i>Experience, Strength, and Hope</i>	9.50
<i>Dr. Bob and the Good Old-timers</i>	9.50
<i>Big Book (16 CDs)</i>	55.00
Linda M:	520-5673

Contributions

Idaho Falls Intergroup Council

PO Box 3486
Idaho Falls ID 83401-3486

District 6

PO Box 50443
Idaho Falls ID 83405-0443

District 6 H & I

PO Box 50572
Idaho Falls ID 83405

Idaho Area 18 Treasurer

PO Box 67
Kuna ID 83634

General Service Office

Grand Central Station
PO Box 459
New York NY 10164-0371

Events

February 19

Spaghetti Dinner— 6pm St. Luke's Church. Proceeds will help organize the Spring Area Assembly. \$5 contribution.

May 13-14-15

Spring Area 18 Assembly- Idaho Falls—Volunteers are needed for a lot of different positions. Help make a visit from AA's around the state memorable. Contacts: Wade 520-5035, Kelly B. 757-1912

Announcements

Can your home group please contribute a signed copy of the Big Book and two cans of Coffee for the Area Assembly? Contacts: Wade 520-5035, Kelly B. 757-1912

AA Hotline & 12 Step Volunteers NEEDED. For more info call Keith J. 521-4080

Noticia: 5:00 PM Grupo " Si Podemos," en español, se esta realizando en la Iglesia de Holy Rosary. Direccion: 145 9th Street. En el sotano.
News: 5:00 PM Group "If we can," in Spanish, is being conducted in the Church of Holy Rosary. Address: 145 9th Street, in the basement.

If you have Questions or Concerns Regarding Serenity Hall Please Call: Greg R. 403-5608 or Henry 569-0589—Serenity Hall Maintenance P. O. Box 2237 Idaho Falls, ID 83403

We would like to add more meetings in the area, though not necessarily in our district. Please send information on other meetings in the area to 12stepsteve@gmail.com. PLEASE SEND BIRTHDAYS, CORRECTIONS, ANY OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST THAT SHOULD BE IN THIS NEWSLETTER TO: 12stepsteve@gmail.com.

Order Grapevine! AA's Meeting in Print—
aagrapevine.org- English: (800) 631-6025
Español: (800) 640-8781

***** Eat & Meet *****

Spaghetti Dinner and Speaker Meeting

Saturday, Feb. 19, 2011

6:00 PM

Suggested Donation \$5

St. Luke's Episcopal
270 North Placer Ave.

Spring Assembly 2011 Entertainment Committee Fundraiser

Big Book + Cover Raffle

AA's GOT TALENT

The show begins with you

Idaho Area 18 Spring Assembly and Convention
May 13-15, 2011
(show Saturday night)

- * Sing *
- * Dance *
- * Skit *
- * Play Instrument *
- * Comedian *
- * Other Talents *

Interested in Participating Please Contact: Lenny F. (208) 360-4896

0100110001001101
Found any cool AA-related websites?
0100110101001001
Submit them for publication here!
0100110001011001
Email: 12stepsteve@gmail.com

Day/Time	Meeting Name	Meeting Type	Location
Sunday			
8:30 AM	Spiritual Breakfast Meeting	O A	Dixie's Diner
9:00 AM	Grapevine Group	O	Serenity Hall - Downstairs
5:00 PM	Reunion de AA en Espanol	O SP	Serenity Hall - Upstairs
7:00 PM	Turning Point Group	O	Serenity Hall - Upstairs
7:00 PM	Twelve By Twelve Meeting	O	Bingham Memorial Hospital - Blackfoot
8:00 PM	Progressive Group	O	Serenity Hall - Downstairs
Monday			
11:30 AM	Lunch Bunch AA	O	Denny's Restaurant
6:00 PM	Women In Recovery Group	O W	Serenity Hall - Upstairs
7:00 PM	Shoulder to Shoulder Group	O A	St. Luke's Episcopal Church
7:30 PM	New Hope and Inspiration Group	O A	First Evangelical Lutheran Church
8:00 PM	Big Book Study Group	O	Serenity Hall - Upstairs
8:00 PM	Lincoln Group	O	Serenity Hall-Downstairs
Tuesday			
7:00 AM	Grapevine Group	O	Serenity Hall - Downstairs - Bring Your Coffee
10:00 AM	Coffee Break Group	O	Serenity Hall - Downstairs
11:30 AM	Eat & Meet	O A	Dixie's Diner
5:30 PM	Just Stay	O	Serenity Hall - Upstairs
6:00 PM	P & S Group	O A	Denny's Restaurant
7:30 PM	East Side Study Group	O A	Christ The King Church
8:00 PM	Heritage Group	O	Serenity Hall - Upstairs
8:00 PM	Big Happy Campers Group	O A	Behavioral Health Center
Wednesday			
11:30 AM	Lunch Bunch Step Study Meeting	O A	Denny's Restaurant
6:00 PM	Clean and Sober Group	O	Serenity Hall - Upstairs
7:00 PM	Fresh Air Group	O	Serenity Hall - Downstairs
7:30 PM	The Great News (Big Book Study)	C A	Unitarian Fellowship Church - Downstairs
8:00 PM	Group I	O	Serenity Hall - Upstairs

Behavioral Health Center
2280 E 25th St

Christ The King Church
1696 E. 17th St.

Church of the Nazarene
1900 Grandview St.

Denny's Restaurant
950 Lindsay Blvd.

Dixie's Diner
2150 Channing Way

First Evangelical Lutheran Church
455 W Sunnyside Rd

Holy Rosary Church
145 9th Street

Serenity Hall
600 S. Boulevard

St. Luke's Episcopal Church
270 N Placer Ave

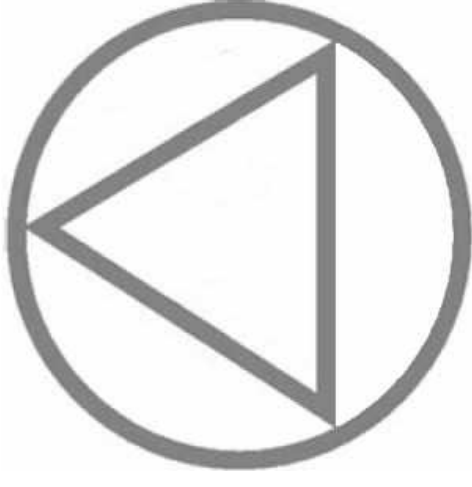
Unitarian Fellowship Church - Downstairs
555 E St

Other Locations

Assembly of God Church
235 West Center Street
Firth, ID 83236

Bingham Memorial Hospital
98 Poplar Street
Pocatello ID

IDAHO FALLS INTERGROUP



Day/Time	Meeting Name	Meeting Type	Location
Thursday			
7:00 AM	Grapevine Group	O	Serenity Hall - Downstairs - Bring Your Coffee
10:00 AM	Coffee Break Group	O	Serenity Hall - Downstairs
11:30 AM	Eat & Meet	O A	Dixie's Diner
5:30 PM	Just Stay	O	Serenity Hall - Upstairs
6:30 PM	New Life Alumni Group	O	Serenity Hall- Downstairs
7:00 PM	3rd Tradition Group	C A	Unitarian Universalist Church of Idaho Falls-Downstairs
7:00 PM	White Knuckle Sobriety Men's Meeting	O A M	Call 227-6697 or 206-5347
8:00 PM	Progressive Group	O	Serenity Hall
8:00 PM	Firth Group		Assembly of God Church - FIRTH

Friday			
11:30 AM	Lunch Bunch AA	O A	Denny's Restaurant
5:30 PM	Just Stay	O	Serenity Hall - Upstairs
6:30 PM	Joker's Wild (Young People's Mtg)	O	Serenity Hall - Downstairs
7:30 PM	The Great News	O	Serenity Hall - Upstairs
8:00 PM	Lincoln Group	O	Serenity Hall-Downstairs
8:00 PM	Westside Group	O	Church of the Nazarene

Saturday			
10:00 AM	Coffee Break Group	O	Serenity Hall - Upstairs
6:00 PM	Clean and Sober Group	O	Serenity Hall - Upstairs
6:00 PM	P & S Group	O A	Denny's Restaurant
8:00 PM	Group I	O	Serenity Hall - Upstairs

First Tuesday of the Month			
6:30 PM	District 6 Business Meeting	C	Serenity Hall - Upstairs
First Thursday of the Month			
6:30 PM	Intergroup Business Meeting	C	Serenity Hall - Upstairs

Key	Handicap Accessible
A	Closed
C	Open
O	Men
M	Spanish
SP	Women
W	

AA Hotline

524-7729

Línea directa de hablar Español

528-2994

Website

<http://www.idahoarea18aa.org/>

main/iffalls.htm

AI-Anon: 522-4947