

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.



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AA Hotline

524-7729

Línea directa de hablar español

528-2994

Sobriety Corner on the Web

<http://www.idahoarea18aa.org/main/ifalls.htm>

Bridge the Gap

(253) 217-2010

Get on the Email List

12stepsteve@gmail.com

The General Services Website

<http://aa.org>

The Grapevine

<http://aagrapevine.org>

AI-Anon: 522-4947*

*In cooperation, not affiliation.



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.

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!

Editor's Corner

Nice weather returns, and June's newsletter discusses Step 6. We stop looking at the broken branches of winter and look at the blossoms of a late Spring. The theme remains shedding the old for the new, the destructive for the instructive; another day's renewal and redemption.

At the meeting this morning, Connie said, "Thinking about Step 6 got me thinking about how it's just like weeding my garden." Wow. It's just that simple — my defects are just like weeds in a garden. Some weeds can be turned into assets when we

just scale them back a bit — some weeds add nitrogen back into the soil — we could even eat a few dandelion greens in a salad.

Taking care of a few weeds here and there can really add up. There is nothing wrong with getting rid of a few or even one weed at a time.

Many gardens are mostly weed-free without any effort. Negativity might persuade me to focus on the weeds instead of the clear area, but one day at a time, my focus can shift from seeing the weeds to seeing the weed-free part of the garden.



Craig W. covers Step 6 this month and talks about how the work we do in earlier steps provides the path for Step 6, helps us right-size the problems.

One thing about shortcomings is that they are always in the past. What's done is done. Every moment is a new opportunity to NOT exercise shortcomings or 'defects of character.'

We are half way through the year and the program in the newsletter! Doing the steps brings a more serene life, helps us stay sober and helps us to help another achieve sobriety.

—Steve M.
June 2011

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	(406) 250-0015	12stepsteve@gmail.com

Other Contacts

Elisa H.	Bridge the Gap	(253) 217-2010
Mike C.	District Public Information	745-1510
Michell S.	H&I - Chair	339-8197
Craig W.	H&I - Correctional Work Ctr	419-6498
Mike C.	H&I - 3B Detention Center	745-1510
Dusty G.	H&I - ARA	681-2810
Randy M.	H&I - Men's Jail	200-4875
Debbie M.	H&I - Women's Jail	569-2959
Veronica W.	H&I - Work Release	403-6693
Greg R.	Serenity Hall Information	403-5608
Claudia H.	Area H&I	525-9290

Were entirely ready to have God remove these defects of character.

Question: What do you get when you sober up a drunken horse thief?

Answer: A horse thief.

For me, this over-played (and probably out-dated) horse-thief idiom illustrates the heart of Step 6. After this program relieved me of the obsession to drink away my problems, I still needed to face and be rid of the problems I'd been trying to ignore.

My sponsor suggested that I return to the inventories I wrote for Step 4 and identify at least one character defect per line of inventory. Then I could make a quick tally of the most frequent offenders. I found that my mistakes frequently came from a grouping of about fifteen character defects.

Before this step, I didn't see that my character was causing so much harm. As it turns out, I am a selfish, arrogant, and inconsiderate liar who is capable of manipulating friends and family to get whatever I want.

Realizing the objectionable aspects of my character is only part of Step 6. Primarily this step is about being willing to let go of these defects. In the Big Book we're asked, "Are we now ready to have God remove from us the

Birthdays

Big Book Study

Group 06/27/11

Member	Years
Rich S.	15

Clean and Sober 06/25/11

Member	Years
Kyle W.	21
Ken F.	11
Linda S.	6
Nick C.	4
Mike K.	2
Jessi M.	1

Coffee Break 06/25/11

Member	Years
Harrison	25
Todd C.	24
Wade C.	19
Christy M.	18
Becky B.	9
John M.	6
Wes E.	4
Chris G.	4
Danny D.	3
Ryan B.	2
Erin J.	2
Chris H.	2
Nathan R.	2
Jessie M.	1
Bryan S.	1

Lincoln 06/25/11

Member	Years
Doug W.	1
Mark O.	15
Bob C.	20

Lunch Bunch 06/24/11

Member	Years
John L.	19
Shane	1

Meet and Eat 06/23/11

Member	Years
Janeen K	22
Shane	3

New Hope and Inspiration 06/20/11

Member	Years
Steve M.	4
Mike	2

Progressive Group 06/30/11

Member	Years
Kim D.	17
Erik F.	12
Kasey J.	6
Alice P.	6
Cody W.	5
Jay G.	3
Kody E.	2

PLEASE SEND BIRTHDAYS FOR THIS NEWSLETTER BY THE 15TH OF EACH MONTH

**TO: 12stepsteve@gmail.com
or phone (406) 250-0015
[Montana phone number].**

things we have found objectionable?"

I was ready to be rid of most of these defects. I understood that lying and stealing needed to stop. But some defects were still serving me. For example, I enjoyed feeling arrogant and entitled to my anger. Feeling like I am better than everyone else was a character trait that had helped me survive the constant feelings of inadequacy I felt deep within my heart. How could I let this survival mechanism go?

The Book suggests that I pray for the willingness to be willing, asking God to help. So that's what I began doing. Six years later, my most recent inventory revealed that I still exhibit many of the the same character defects—though not to the same degree. "We practice progress, not perfection."

By continuing to work this and the other 11 steps, I try to use other character traits to get through my day without causing harm to the people in my life. The universe abhors a vacuum, so by letting go of arrogance I make room for humility. Today I try to be quick to admit my faults and recognize someone else's success with equal speed.

—Craig W.

Intergroup Meeting Minutes

Intergroup Meeting Minutes—May 4, 2011

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

Secretary's Report: Minutes from April 7 meeting read and accepted.

Treasurer's Report: 4/6/11 Beginning Balance \$1414.57 General Account

Source Transaction

Qwest -52.43

Falls Printing -42.40

Literature -355.80

Check to Entertainment -65.00

Literature +319.60 pending

Meet & Eat +75.00 pending

Shoulder to Shoulder +12.00 pending

Great News +15.00 pending

Fresh Air +46.85 pending

5/4/11 Ending Balance \$916.94

Entertainment \$1256.63 no transactions

Prudent Reserve \$192.38

Entertainment Report: Planning is moving forward for the Founder's Day Anniversary picnic. It will be held at Tautphaus park Shelter 3, Saturday June 4, 11am-6pm. Planning meetings will be held on Saturday mornings.

Matt is seeking input on holding other events throughout the summer.

Literature: Books for the Spring Assembly have arrived. These were provided by individual groups, not by Intergroup funds.

Hotline: A member willing to serve as Hotline Coordinator is still needed. New volunteers were added.

Newsletter: Steve is seeking content for monthly Steps and Traditions. Please consider sharing your experience in this way.

Old Business: A special Intergroup meeting to discuss Intergroup Guideline amendments will be held on Thursday, May 19, 6:30 to 8:30 pm at the New Life Assembly of God Church, 2170 12th Street, Idaho Falls

New Business: Motion passes to hold all future Intergroup meetings at 6:30pm at Dixie's Diner on Channing Way. The meetings will be held in a private room.

Intergroup has been invited by District 6 to participate in a workshop held Aug. 6 with general topic of service.

The Building committee reports that the Serenity Hall carpet is being replaced. This may affect Saturday afternoon availability. Volunteers are needed to help.

District 6 GSR Meeting Minutes

District 6 GSR Meeting Notes – May 3, 2011

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

12 Traditions read

Attendees: Tim W. – DCM, Alan C. – 3rd Tradition, Keith J. – Great News, Daryl J. – Grapevine, Marie N. – Coffee Break, Veronica – Grapevine Chair, Mark H. – Westside, Barbara C. – Meet n' Eat, Kadie H. – Shoulder to Shoulder, Alan H. – Lunch Bunch, Rob N. – Big Book Study, Jess H. – Turning Point, Marjri – Women in Recovery, Wade H. – Shoulder to Shoulder, Hal T. – Dist. Secretary

Minutes from April District 6 GSR meeting unanimously approved 7:05

H&I Chair Report: No Report, although it was noted that, because the separate jail pods cannot meet while another pod is meeting, H&I needs to keep the meetings short in order to accommodate all pods.

CPC/PI Report: Public Service Announcements (PSA's) in the form of television and radio commercials have arrived. They should be airing soon. The A.A. information hotel inserts are searching for a home. To be of service to CPC/PI or to contact Mike C., email mike@mikesleather.com

Treasurer's Report: Beginning balance as of 04/01/2011 \$439.78. Income: Meet n' Eat, \$25.00, Shoulder to Shoulder, \$12.00, Great News, \$10.00 *Total Income:* \$47.00. Expenses: GSR Assembly, mileage, and printing, -\$193.68, In-

tergroup Newsletter, -\$10.00. *Total Expenses:* -\$203.68. Ending balance including \$200.00 prudent reserve and \$50.00 for PRAASA, **\$283.31**

Grapevine Report: Veronica, Chair: Grapevine, our awesome meeting in print, is having a subscription drive! As part of the promotion, they are raffling off a BEAUTIFUL, A.A. themed quilt. If you purchase a Grapevine subscription, you will get a free raffle ticket for the quilt. If you buy a subscription for a jail or institution, you get TWO tickets! You've got to see this quilt to believe it! Plus, you will love your monthly dose of wisdom, spirituality, and humor. See Veronica for details.

Old Business: No old business of note

New Business: Motion was made and passed to have District 6 co-sponsor a service workshop on Saturday, August 6th. The other two sponsors are the Turning Point and Shoulder to Shoulder groups. District is going to approach Intergroup about putting on this workshop together. A PRAASA report was requested.

Members' Column

Hi, Everyone,

My name is Jack and today I am truly a grateful alcoholic. This past weekend at the Idaho Area 18 Conference-Assembly I witnessed one more of the many miracles that occur daily in Alcoholics Anonymous.

Most of us know that the Grapevine - Laviña subscription sales have been down and the Grapevine is having financial difficulties. It put tears of happiness and gratitude in my ole eyes to see what one sweet lady with a passion for service work and a desire to help the Grapevine accomplished.

Veronica W. (District 6-Idaho Area 18) dedicated many hours making an absolutely beautiful quilt to be raffled to benefit the Grapevine. This was only the beginning of her project. She displayed the quilt at our Area Grapevine display and recruited help to make sure everyone there was informed of the details. At the closing of the final day they had sold 70 new subscriptions to the Grapevine and or La Viña. Wow!!!!!! I must also tell you that 34 of those new subscriptions were purchased to go to institutions. How awesome is that? Double Wow!!!!!!!!!!

Here is her secret formula---

- 1 Have a love for AA and service work.
- 2 Make something very special to present for raffle.

- 3 Give one raffle ticket for each new subscription---Two if the purchase is for an institution.
- 4 Do it at an event where it will be visible to as many members as possible.

Please share this information with as many people in AA as possible. I love AA and I love the Grapevine. I want it to always be available for those of us who have access to meetings and especially to those of us who don't.

Thank all of you from Area 18 that participated. Thank you again Veronica for your vision and hard work.

I love you all.

Love and Service,

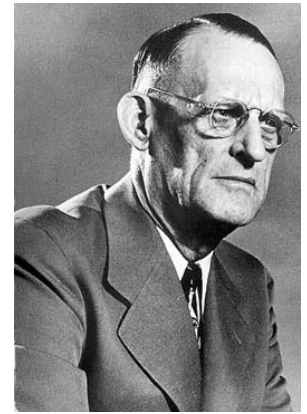
Jack B
Idaho Area 18 Grapevine Rep.

Hi folks.

Larry, alcoholic. Topic of "change". I heard that word in meetings right at the start. Change what, I asked. They said "everything". I said - How? They said by taking the 12 steps.

The first time I came to AA I didn't take that suggestion much at all. I didn't want to do the work - I just wanted the pain to go away. So I went to meetings, lots and lots of meetings, got a Big Book, didn't read it, didn't get a home group, nor a sponsor, and at about 10 months of dry time, I left and went on a quest to prove that I could find a way to drink like a gentleman and have a manageable life. Did that for 18 months, got real drunk, and darned near killed myself. They told me if I went back to drinking that they'd (AA) would mess up my drinking and that was so true. It was really miserable. Came to believe, sitting on my favorite bar stool one Friday night, that I was in deep doo doo. I was down to two choices, and two only - keep drinking and die that lonely alcoholic death or get my sorry butt back to AA. Sure glad I made the right choice and came back Nov. 1, 1990.

I knew that I had to change, that I had to take all their suggestions as best I could. Got a home group, a sponsor and got into the Big Book. Became a coffee maker, got into service, joined the Tribe, climbed up into the inside of the wagon, instead of just hanging onto the outside. Came to pray and stay. The steps - that's the key - taking them. Being a very hardheaded person the process was never easy for me but always worth the effort - still is. And over time I have changed, not cured, no saint, but, I believe, a better human being.



Sometimes I look at the process as being one of subtraction, as much or more than change. We pray to have our wrongs, character defects, shortcomings removed (subtracted) and maybe what really happens is that we become who we should have been all along. It was in us, just covered up by the disease of alcoholism.

Today I continue to get that daily reprieve as long as I remain willing to do and follow the spiritual principles of AA to the best of my ability - Today!

With love, Larry J.
sd 11/01/90

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: (208) 932- 2476

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

June 4—AA Spring Anniversary Picnic —Tautphaus Park—Shelter Number 3—11:00am—6:00pm. POT LUCK! Bring everything except the Hot Dogs and Hamburgers! Volunteers needed. Talk to Matt J.

August 6—Service Workshop—Serenity Hall— Sponsored by District 6, the Shoulder to Shoulder and Turning Point Groups. Time TBD. Service - Service is a cornerstone of the A.A. way of life. All aspects of service will be represented, from shoveling meeting walkways to charring meetings. Also, find out the great ideas our volunteers brought back from PRAASA!

Announcements

Intergroup Entertainment Committee Meetings—Contact Matt J. Help make the AA Anniversary Celebration memorable for everyone.

AA HOTLINE CHAIR NEEDED. Volunteer positions open. For more info call Keith J. 521-4080

PLEASE SEND ARTICLES, BIRTHDAYS, CORRECTIONS, FOR THIS NEWSLETTER TO: 12stepsteve@gmail.com or phone (406) 250-0015 [Montana phone number].

Bridge the Gap—Help folks get to a meeting. Contact Elisa (253) 217-2010



Group Consciences



Harry, don't you think wearing women's clothing is taking this anonymity thing too far?

Group	Group Conscience
Big Book Study Group	2nd Monday
Clean and Sober	
Coffee Break	3rd Saturday
Firth Group	
Fresh Air	2nd Wednesday
Grapevine	1st Sunday
Great News	3rd Friday - 6:30pm
Just Stay	1st Tuesday
Lincoln	
Lunch Bunch	3rd Friday
Meet and Eat	2nd Tuesday
New Hope and Inspira-	
Progressive Group	
Third Tradition Group	3rd Thursday
Westside Group	2nd Friday

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	Holy Rosary Church Annex
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	Crossroads 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 Annex
145 9th Street

Serenity Hall
600 S. Boulevard

St. Luke's Episcopal Church
270 N Placer Ave

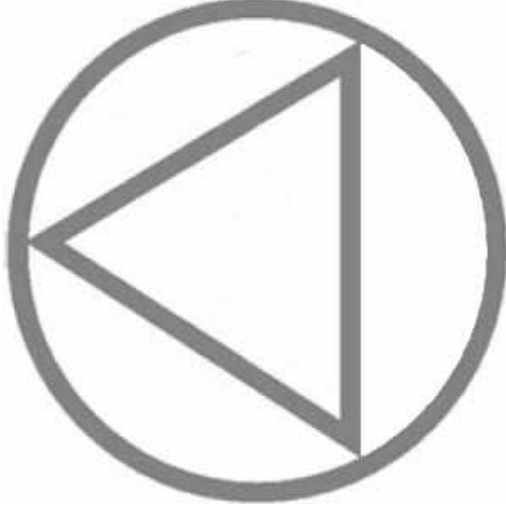
Unitarian Fellowship Church - Downstairs
555 E St

Other Locations

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

Bingham Memorial Hospital
98 Poplar Street
Pocatello ID

IDAHO FALLS INTERGROUP



AA Hotline: 524-7729

Línea directa de hablar Español:

528-2994

Area Website

<http://www.idahoarea18aa.org>

Bridge the Gap: (253) 217-2010

AI-Anon: 522-4947*

Idaho Falls Intergroup Council
PO Box 3486
Idaho Falls ID 83401-3486

*In cooperation, not affiliation.

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			
9:00AM	The Sunlight of the Spirit	O W	Serenity Hall—Downstairs
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

Meeting Type
A = Handicap Accessible
C = Closed Meeting
M = Men
O = Open Meeting
SP = Spanish
W = Women