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"NEW"

**Literature Hours:
Tues. & Thurs 12-4**

Mon. & Fri. 4-7p.m.

**Central Office:
622-80 Bradford St.
Barrie, ON, L4N 6S7
(705) 725-8682**



Newsletter Editor:

newslettereditor@barrieaa.com

**Barrie & Area
Intergroup Meeting
Apr 10th at 7:00 pm
Central United
church
54 Ross Street,
Barrie**

**Georgian Bay South
District 8
Committee Meeting
Sunday, Apr 19rd
St. Georges Anglican
Church**

corner of Burton Ave
and Granville St, from
1:30 to 3:00 pm.

Ontario Regional Conference

ORC 2009 – The Joy of Living

**March 20, 21 and 22, 2009
Fairmont Royal York Hotel
Toronto, Ontario**

1-416-487-2677 orc@aatoronto.org

A few words of Wisdom! from Dr. Bob's last talk

"Let us also remember to guard that erring member - the tongue, and if we must use it, let's use it with kindness and consideration and tolerance."
Thank you very much."

"And one more thing; none of us would be here today if somebody hadn't taken time to explain things to us, to give us a little pat on the back, to take us to a meeting or two, to have done numerous little kind and thoughtful acts in our behalf. So let us never get the degree of smug complacency so that we're not willing to extend or attempt to, that help which has been so beneficial to us, to our less fortunate brothers. Thank you very much."
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Your Intergroup is Open for business!!

Volunteers are needed for telephone and 12 step calls.

Please get active & reap the rewards!!

***AA Literature available!
705-725-8682***

Birthdays & Anniversaries



Happy Birthday to those celebrating milestones of sobriety... those 24hrs add up!



Mark Your Calendar ! or Check the web: www.barrieaa.com
for more details on these events & Updated Meeting List (725-8682)

**33rd Annual
Barrie Spring
Roundup
Saturday, 18
April, 2009
Collier Street
United Church
112 Collier
Street
Barrie, Ontario**

*Hamilton and
Districts
Archives
Breakfast*
19 April 2009
Carmens Banquet
Centre
Hamilton, Ontario

**44th Annual Niagara
Blossom Time
Convention**
1, 2 & 3 May 2009
Niagara Falls, Ontario
www.blossomtimeconvention.com

Tradition Three

Our membership ought to include all who suffer from alcoholism. Hence we may refuse none who wish to recover. Nor ought A.A. membership ever depend upon money or conformity. Any two or three alcoholics gathered together for sobriety may call themselves an A.A. Group, provided that, as a group, they have no other affiliation.

Welcome?

When a wet drunk shows up at a meeting

A drunk showed up at an AA meeting holding a can of beer, and he was told, unequivocally, that he could not come in. He left, but showed up outside a few days later, yelling that even AA wouldn't let him in. A member went out to talk to him and calm him down. The police arrived and our member assured them that the man was, indeed, going into the AA meeting.

A number of people at the meeting started whispering, visibly upset that a "wet" one had disrupted the meeting. Again, the drunk left. Outside the meeting, he had a seizure and collapsed. Paramedics were called.

Someone heard that the man tried to commit suicide. When he was released from the hospital, he showed up at our meeting the same day. This time, he was sullen and reclusive. Not one male member in the room went over to him. Instead, members talked about their troubled relationships, whether or not to buy a new house, and their job problems. Silently, I got up and went over to the man.

He told me about how sick he was and about the incomprehensible demoralization he felt. He wanted to stop drinking and couldn't. I got him some water and a cookie and then quietly asked a couple of male AAs to take over. I do not know if the man is sober today, or if he is even alive.

A few days later, I brought up the topic of having a wet drunk at our meeting. Most members felt that the common welfare of the group came before the wet drunk. During the discussion, members said various disparaging things: "He doesn't want it," and "Meetings need to be about recovery issues, not about some wet one that won't hear anything, anyway." I wondered if a recovery issue was divorce, a lost job, and a new house, or was it getting someone off booze long enough to find a Higher Power that can solve all those other issues? To me, the primary purpose of Alcoholics Anonymous is helping the still sick and suffering alcoholic, and not just the cleaned-up-detoxed-and-sober-twenty-eight-days new person that walks through the doors.

When I arrived in the rooms of AA, I was not sober, cleaned up, or detoxed. I had not brushed my teeth in weeks. However, not a single person told me to leave. On the contrary, they welcomed me. Not one person sat in judgment.

Have some AA meetings become social groups, with membership requiring that you already be sober so that you can have a free therapy session and discuss your issue of the day? My Big Book says I must work with the still sick and suffering alcoholic if I want to stay sober and live a happy, joyous, and free life.

Today, I may not be popular in my home group because I talk about the Traditions, the responsibilities of sobriety, and welcoming and reaching out to the wet drunk. But I do what was done for me -- I share my spiritual experience in finding a Higher Power, whether the drunk I'm addressing is coming in for the first time or for the tenth time. For that, I am responsible.

C.G., Crystal Springs, Florida

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"Quotes"

From a Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous

"A Vision for You"

Pp153....We have shown how we got out from under. You say, "Yes, I'm willing. But am I to be consigned to a life where I shall be stupid, boring and glum, like some righteous people I see? I know I must get along without liquor, but how can I? Have you a sufficient substitute?"

Yes, there is a substitute and it is vastly more than that. It is a fellowship in Alcoholics Anonymous. There you will find release from care, boredom and worry. Your imagination will be fired. Life will mean something at last. The most satisfactory years of your existence lie ahead. Thus we find the fellowship, and so will you.

"How is that to come about?" you ask. "Where am I to find these people?"

You are going to meet these new friends in your own community. Near you, alcoholics are dying helplessly like people in a sinking ship. If you live in a large place, there are hundreds. High and low, rich and poor, these are future fellows of Alcoholics Anonymous. Among them you will make lifelong friends. You will be bound to them with new and wonderful ties, for you will escape disaster together and you will commence shoulder to shoulder your common journey. Then you will know what it means to give of yourself that others may survive and rediscover life. You will learn the full meaning of "Love thy neighbor as thyself."

It may seem incredible that these men are to become happy, respected, and useful once more. How can they rise out of such misery, bad repute and hopelessness? The practical answer is that since these things have happened among us, they can happen with you. Should you wish them above all else, and be willing to make use of our experience, we are sure they will come. The age of miracles is still with us. Our own recovery proves that!...

Pp164...Still you may say: "But I will not have the benefit of contact with you who write this book." We cannot be sure. God will determine that, so you must remember that your real reliance is always upon Him. He will show you how to create the fellowship you crave.

Our book is meant to be suggestive only. We realize we know only a little. God will constantly disclose more to you and to us. Ask Him in your morning meditation what you can do each day for the man who is still sick. The answers will come, if your own house is in order. But obviously you cannot transmit something you haven't got. See to it that your relationship with Him is right, and great events will come to pass for you and countless others. This is the Great Fact for us.

Abandon yourself to God as you understand God. Admit your faults to Him and to your fellows. Clear away the wreckage of your past. Give freely of what you find and join us. We shall be with you in the Fellowship of the Spirit, and you will surely meet some of us as you trudge the Road of Happy Destiny.

May God bless you and keep you - until then.

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Newsletter updates March 7, 2009

Hi to all my fellow AA's!

It is with great pleasure and enthusiasm that we at intergroup are resuming the newsletter for your groups. We look forward to serving you!

Thanks are due to carol T. for her service and guidance, THANK YOU!!

"It's Your newsletter"

We will do best to stay within the AA guidelines ® AND "The A.A. service Manual ®

We need your assistance in forming a committee to prepare/schedule "theme issues", articles on some aspect of the AA program and deliver the newsletter to all groups we serve in order that your group benefits from this and hopefully feel more united with AA as a whole. This newsletter is a great responsibility to our groups and I can not do this alone.

I know there are many talented AA members in "your neck of the woods" Who might enjoy contributing with this newsletter and I welcome anyone who joins me in making this endeavor a success for all our groups in the Barrie and area.

A small commitment with wonderful rewards.

I Guarantee it!

Suggestions, Short Reports from your minutes or Requests from P.I.C. C.P.C., Bridging the Gap, Grapevine or any District Committees are welcome in the end of serving all the groups we all represent.

Please send any correspondence to (Benny) at newslettereditor@barrie.com

Or phone me at 705-241-1562

Looking forward to hearing from you!

In Love and service, Benoit F.