

The DIALog

A PUBLICATION OF THE DALLAS INTERGROUP ASSOCIATION (est. 1947)

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Welcome back to the DIALog – your newsletter for the Dallas Intergroup Association



HAPPY APRIL ANNIVERSARIES!

-  **Chicago Group** - 15 years
-  **Clean Air North** - 26 years
-  **Legacy Group**- 17 years
-  **Mesquite Big Town** - 60 years
-  **The Principles Group** - 11 years
-  **Towne South** - 42 years



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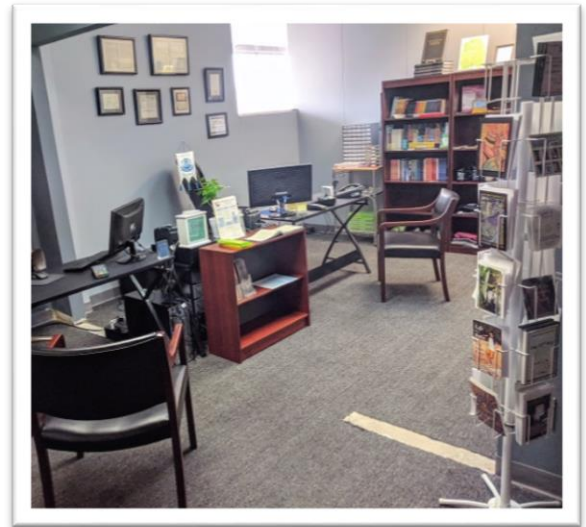
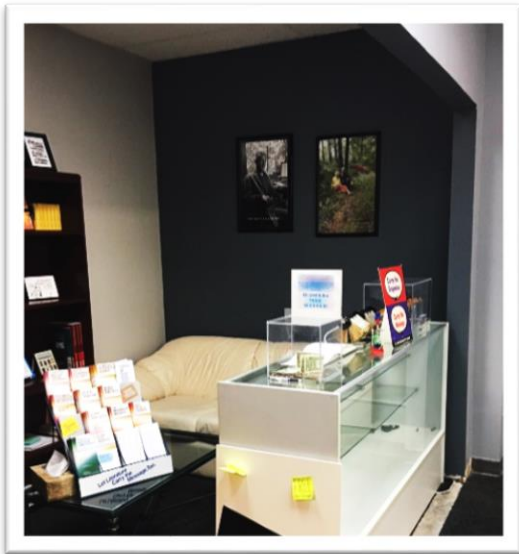
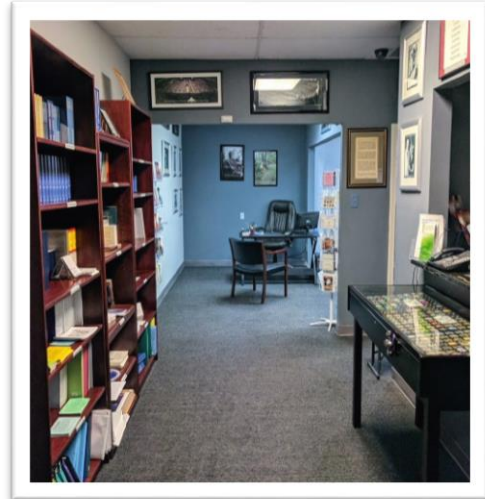
The Intergroup Office.....

During January and February of this year, a *major housecleaning* was performed at the Intergroup office. Thank you to all of the volunteers to participated in this effort! Take a look at the Before and After!

Before.....



...and After!



**BE THE HAND OF AA when
the Texas State Convention is held
in Dallas on June 22-24**

- **GREETERS are needed** – contact Teresa Rowell at teresarowell@gmail.com or call her at 214.706.4020.
- **HOSPITALITY Room needs volunteers** on Fri., June 22nd from 1-4 - contact Todd M at lightbulbguy@msn.com or call him at 214.837.6254.

Dallas Welcomes a New Women’s Conference!

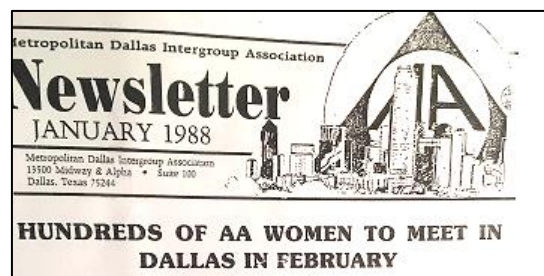
The first annual GirlapaloozAA, an open AA Women’s conference, will be held May 4, 5 & 6 at the Mesquite Convention Center. Based on Unity, Recovery and Service, 300 women will come together to celebrate the joy of living. Nine women will share their journey through the twelve steps of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Reaching back to a history that started in Oklahoma in 1964 when Bernadette O’K .began a women’s conference. “The Language of the Heart spoken by women for women has become a new sober phenomenon” as written in their mission statement is just as true today as it was 1964. Since then, the National Women’s conference has been held each year in a different city.

Flash forward to 1988, Dallas, TX, when the women of Dallas hosted over 2000 sober women for the 24th Annual National Women’s conference at the Hyatt Regency. Several of us gals today still talk about being young in sobriety and volunteering for the conference. We learned that we are not a glum lot and where many of us began a lifetime of service.

The Hyatt Regency said they had never served so much coffee in their history.

strength and hope with others throughout the country reinforces the potent and miraculous power of Alcoholics Anonymous”.



To help spread the word and attract volunteers to help with this huge undertaking of hosting 2000 women in 1988, Julie A and Mary M started a speaker meeting, offering cookies and coffee, and opportunities for the women of the Dallas area to volunteer for the conference. Still going strong since 1984, the Metropolitan Women’s Meeting continues three times a year and frequently has over 100 sober women at each meeting.

Now GirlapaloozAA is offering the opportunity to be of service, for women to gather and be part of this “sober phenomenon” to share the joy of sobriety in Dallas. We hope you will join us and perhaps, GirlapaloozAA can be the beginning of something much bigger. Perhaps, it is time to bring the International Women’s Conference back to Dallas, TX in 2020?

Let’s show our sober sisters how we do sobriety in Texas, with warmth, love and service. And a lotta fun. For more information on GirlapaloozAA or to register (GirlapaloozAADfw.com).

If you have access to any archives of the 1988 NWC, please contact: Kathleen CH (214-282-9108) or Jo Ann M (214-395-6104).



The Metropolitan Dallas Intergroup (now Dallas Intergroup Association) Newsletter in the January 1988 issue wrote: “sharing their experience,

CALLING ALL WRITERS...

- ☕ Send us your experiences of UNITY, RECOVERY, and SERVICE
- ☕ Send us your HOME GROUP history
- ☕ Tell us about events coming up at your HOME GROUP
- ☕ Email camillekintergroup2018@gmail.com or call Camille at 972.977.9501.

Anniversary Story – Clean Air North Group

By Jo M.

On March 17, 1992, several members of the Addison and Phoenix groups met to form a non-smoking group. Gathering up a coffee pot, a few chairs, and personal pledges, CAN came into being. They raised the necessary money to pay the rent, electricity, purchase more chairs and supplies to open the doors. Chips and books were borrowed from other groups. None of the original group goes to CAN today.

We had our first official meeting on April 1, 1992 with Ray H. as a step speaker. Clean Air North's first birthday party had one celebrant Kathy H. with 1 year. Our usual birthday nights range from 10 to 20+ getting chips.

Finances were a struggle for this group as it is for many new groups. However, in September of 1994, we lost one of our founding members, Kevin W and the donations and remembrances on his behalf helped the group stay open. Today we enjoy an adequate prudent reserve as well as contributing consistently to Intergroup, GSO, Area and District.

In July of 1996, we moved to our second location thanks to the assistance of Charlie D. in negotiating the lease. Everyone pitched in and helped. It was a great fun day. It verified, however, that we all like to be the one in charge since at first almost everyone started out at the new place to show the others where things were to go; however, there were no others. We had to regroup and some volunteered to be worker bees. Learning to just be a worker among workers.

In March 2015 we moved one more time to accommodate a growing membership.

One thing our group does well is provide opportunities for 12th step work with sponsorship being the key. We are active at Magdalen House, North Texas Roundup, State Convention, jail programs, Nightwatch, Green Oaks and Intergroup to name a few. We have donated Big Books whenever there is a need whether to prisons, Maggie's and once even as far as Havana Cuba and Russia. We respond to any opportunity to be of service and several of us have had the chance to call on wet drunks. They do provide endless opportunities to look at ourselves and laugh at the absurd reasons we could come up with why our lives were such a mess. We have a 12th step board with contact names and numbers for those who want to be, or the sponsor suggests they be, of service.

In our years we have been assailed by better ideas. We've had black books, notebooks, basic books, experience books and guide books; we've seen several self-proclaimed authorities who had the "right" way, the new way, the true way, the basic way, and the best way. We've seen those who had tapes to sell, web pages from which to donate, drunk farms to pay for, books to buy and lectures to be endured. Somehow we have managed to stick to the 12 steps and the Big Book. If we can keep our message simple: Trust God, clean house, work with others, we can continue to serve God as a Group.

Hardly a week goes by that we don't see a brand new drunk come in and try to stay sober. Also as a result of our Group Inventory, we are making more efforts to extend our outreach and get more of the group involved in carrying the message. And yes, the service board got moved.

Our location and friendly atmosphere may get them here, but adherence to the steps and the traditions keep them here!

HAPPY TWENTY-SIXTH ANNIVERSARY CLEAN AIR NORTH!

Get in the Middle...



...of AA. Don't just check out the following service opportunities – **Get into Action!**

☕ **HELP** set up the **Intergroup Chili Cook-off** -- Email Joe G at jandkgray@sbcglobal.net or call him at 214.564.9403, or email Tom at tomallred@sbcglobal.net. *All sobriety levels and skills welcome!*

JOIN the **Nightwatch** Committee or join Nightwatch to take after-hours calls from Intergroup -- email kbdenson68@gmail.com or call Keith at 469.682.6188. *Requires 1 year sobriety / must have worked 12 steps.*

☕ **MAN** a table at a **Health or Education Fair** -- email mightystu@gmail.com or call Stu at 972.877.9396.

☕ **SPEAK** at **area groups** -- call the Intergroup office. *Requires 1 year sobriety / must have worked 12 steps.*

☕ **TAKE** a meeting to **Lew Sterrett Jail or Texas prisons** -- email freewells95@yahoo.com or call Freda at 972.948.0675. *Requires 1 year sobriety.*

☕ **TAKE** a Meeting to a **Treatment Center** - email bwb@banowsky.com or call Baxter at 214.235.2224.

☕ **WORK** in the **Intergroup Office** - Call the Intergroup Office from 10a – 3p M-F).

Anniversary Story – The Chicago Group

by Baxter B.

In 1994, a group of Dallas AA members from the Phoenix Group decided to start a new group. They called their new group the Big Book Group. The Big Book Group was a structured group whose members strongly encouraged commitment and sponsorship. All went well for a time. However, by the end of 2002, friction was on the rise.

One of the founding members of the Big Book Group (Mickie T.) and his sponsor (Dave H.) decided to explore the possibility of forming a new group. Two other Big Book Group members, Baxter B. and Josh K. were also considering a move. Dave H. was a member of the Clean Air North Group. In early 2003 a meeting was held with several members of the Clean Air North Group and these three members of the Big Book Group. A decision was made to form a new group called the North Park Group.

The new group, coined “Big Air” by Brooks B., was an eclectic group. The group was formed in February 2003 just after the Big Book Group’s 9th anniversary. The group met on Tuesday and Friday nights. Along with Mickie T., Baxter B. and Josh K., several other former Big Book AA members joined the new group including Mike and Jessica R., Pete M. and Tim P. The new group, however, proved a little too eclectic to stay together and, within no time, the Big Book Group contingent became restless.

Mike R. and Baxter B. decided to see if there was interest in forming another new group, to meet once a week, and to use the format from the Monday Night Ohio Street meeting in West Los Angeles, California. A meeting was held in Baxter B.’s dining room to discuss forming this new group. Present were: Baxter B., Mike and Jessica R., Josh K., Jimmy D. (who had not become a member of the North Park Group), Tim P., Pete M., Lori S., a new guy (that doctor) and two new girls sponsored by Jessica, Mia and Beth. Mike R. called Clancy I. in California to obtain a copy of the meeting format. He was referred to Jim H. in Chicago, who had started a similar group in Chicago and had the format in electronic form. Jim H. then emailed the format to Mike R. The group in Chicago had been named the “California Group.” Jim H. suggested the new group in Dallas be named the “Chicago Group.” After the decision was made to form the new group using the Monday Night Ohio Street format, the discussion ensued about its name. Although many potential names were proposed, at the end, the founders of the new group took Jim H.’s suggestion and named it the Chicago group. Another discussion ensued

about the giving of desire chips and chips for monthly sobriety. Some thought the practice focused too much attention on the newcomer, especially frequent slippers. Others thought it was important to recognize the early sobriety of new members. A compromise was reached wherein the group would hand out desire chips and chips recognizing months of sobriety, but that it would do so during the coffee break for all those who cared to have them. That practice continues. The format was approved and has remained unchanged since that day, including the now obsolete admonition for group members to turn off their beepers at the beginning of the meeting.

The new group held its initial meeting on the first Wednesday in April 2003 at the Highland Oaks Church of Christ at the intersection of LBJ Freeway and Plano Road. The meeting was chaired by Josh K., Larry J. was the speaker and Baxter B. picked up his 17 year chip. A few weeks later, the new group found a more permanent home in the basement of Temple Emmanuel, at the corner of Hillcrest and Northwest Highway. Towards the end of 2004, the Chicago Group moved to its current location at the Northway Christian Church.

The past secretaries of the Chicago group are Baxter B., Mike R., Jimmy D., Jessica R., Josh K., John B., Maile S., Dave C., Sherie C., Ryan S., Greg M., Keith D., Scott R., Matt J. and Sara P. Our current secretary, as of April 1, is Jon P.

FAITHFUL FIVERS: WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE ONE?

Faithful Fivers are AA members who, in gratitude, pledge to contribute at least \$5.00 each month towards the support of Dallas Intergroup Association, DIA.

This contribution gives AA members the opportunity to practice the Seventh Tradition regularly and painlessly.

We can set up an automatic credit card deduction, or you can send in a check once a month -- whenever you choose. Call, 214-887-6699, to set up your monthly contributions.

DIA is totally supported by AA groups and individuals. Contributions are limited to \$3,000 per member per year and are tax deductible.

To become a Faithful Fiver, send your name, address, email address and phone number, along with your contribution to

6162 E. Mockingbird Ln
Suite 213,
Dallas, TX 75214

Please be sure and include your

EVENTS – May 2018

May 2

2nd ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION – UNSHAKEABLE FOUNDATIONS GROUP

Right after the 12p Noon meeting

@ The Directions Community Center

2335 Laughlin Drive, Dallas, TX 75228

May 4-5-6

GIRLAPALOOZA

GirlapaloozAAdfw.com

Mesquite Convention Center, Mesquite, TX

May 5

TRI CITY CINCO DE MAYO CELEBRATION

@ 1-4 pm

Warren Park, 7599 Eldorado Parkway, Frisco, TX

“The Good, Bad and AA”. Hosted by three Frisco area groups.

May 10

INTERGROUP REP MEETING FOR MAY

@ 8:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Mcliver Chapel at the Wilshire Baptist Church, 4316

Abrams Road, Dallas, TX 75214.

If you are new or need more information, please contact the office. 214-887-6699 or email lincolns@aadallas.org.

NOTE: There is no smoking anywhere on the church property.

May 20

CLEAN AIR GROUP ANNUAL PICNIC

2-4pm

Clean Air Group

Clean Air Group’s Annual Picnic will be held in the outdoor area of building. Please sign-up to bring your favorite picnic dishes, any games or activities to enjoy in fellowship. Sign-up sheet will be posted this week around the rooms at the Group.

May 24

32ND ANNUAL GATHERING OF EAGLES

May 24 @ 6:30 am - May 27 @ 1:00 pm

Dallas Renaissance Hotel

900 E Lookout Drive

Richardson, TX 75082

(972) 367-2000

The 32nd Annual Gathering of Eagles will take place

May 24-27 over the Memorial Day Weekend 2018.

Thursday's "Kick off Dinner" (limited seating) May 24.

Register online by visiting:

www.dallasgatheringofeagles.org

EVENTS – June 2018

June 10

83RD ANNIVERSARY OF AA: FOUNDERS DAY AT CORNERSTONE GROUP

@ 12:15 – 2p

9090 Skillman St., Suite 299-A

Diagonal left from Tom Thumb on 2nd floor

Dallas, TX 75243 214-827-3972

June 22-24

72ND ANNUAL TEXAS STATE CONVENTION

June 22 @ 2p – June 24 @ 12p noon

Web site for ordering tickets and hotel:

<http://txaaconvention.org/>

Questions? Email: 2018texasstateconvention@gmail.com

More Questions? Contact Jimmy D. 214-674-7836,

Stuart R 972-877-9396

Coming in Future Issues



Meet the Intergroup Board



The AA scene in Dallas 50 years ago



Heard on Nightwatch



Personal stories of unity, recovery and service



Stories from a jail cell meeting



More group histories