

Hands of Hope Group History

The Hands of Hope Group started in April /81 at 8:30 pm on Tuesday evenings.

The original members were Roger M. Bob M & Bertha? Bob is a member of the St. Anne's Group and Roger M was a member of Merritton Group He passed away on March 26/20.

The Group started at the request of the old St. Catharines General Hospital, on Queenston St. St. Catharines. It was hoped AA members who were patients, could attend an AA Group, while they were in hospital. However this only happened on a few occasions, and instead other AA members started to attend on a regular basis. The early Meetings were held in the cafeteria when smoking was allowed. After 2-3 years the Group relocated to the Norris Wing. Our Meeting time changed from 8:30 pm to 8:00 pm in 1992. In early 2009 the Hospital required extra space for the planning of the New Hospital, and the Group moved to Club 16 as a temporary measure. This was followed by a more permanent move on April 7/09, to Westview Christian Fellowship Church (enter through side door on Oakdale Ave), 124 Queenston St. St. Catharines. Our Group continues to be located at this Church. Effective June 7/16 our Meeting changed its starting time to 7:30 pm every Tuesday.

Over the years our attendance and Group membership has ebbed and flowed. We are primarily a Discussion Group, however for members Anniversaries, most of our members choose to have a Speaker Meeting. Our Group has always been conscious of being represented at the service level – GSR and Intergroup. In addition our Group members have served on our BTC, BTG, PI/CPC and the Ad – Hoc Committee relating to our Intergroup Guidelines. We have a Grapevine Table and a Literature Table Every week we have Raffle for our Big Book, or our 12 & 12 Book. Presently we have 20 Group members, including one member who joined our Group in 1988, and another member who joined in 1991.

We offer a warm “Welcome Home” to the suffering alcoholic, and other members, as they continue to progress in their journey of sobriety, “One Day At A Time.”

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