

## History of Never Alone

In the early part of 1994 the Skyway group voted upon a motion to ban smoking at the group. The motion was defeated and a small group of non smokers decided that they did not want to risk their health anymore and decided to leave the group. After some time the members found out that no one had joined a new group. They met at Dave's for a few weeks and decided it was time to look for a location to meet. Since most of them lived in the north end of St. Catharine's the Church of Christ located on 439 Ontario Street seemed to be the ideal location. The group needed to decide on a group name and the A.A. directory was perused and Margaret came across "Never Alone" which seemed to reach accord with everyone.

The first meeting was held on September 1, 1994 at this church. Gerry M. From the Serenity group spoke. It was well attended for the first meeting. Members from the Skyway group came to the meeting to wish the group well and jokingly called it the "Resentment Group". At the end of the meeting everyone was asked to sign a big book. We retained the book for many years but sadly it was sold.

The original members were:

Mary Ann A.	Al T.	Margaret R.
JoAnn J.	Dave E.	Marlene G.
Cathy D.	Pete P.	(Mort)

For many years the original members not only kept the doors of AA open they also had many BBQ's & Christmas get-togethers where a great deal of fun & laughs was had by all. We all felt a very close bond for each other & often felt as though we were an extended family. To date there are still 4 of the original members attending the meeting on a regular basis.

Within a couple of years the group grew to about 20 members and now at the seventeen year mark there are over 50 members.

When you walk down the stairs to the meeting there is always a smiling face to greet you. Name tags are a part of our history. It is a great way for new comers to get to know the names of our members and vice a versa.

Now in 2011 we have 2 members that have over thirty years of sobriety, who we cherish. They have become the elder statesmen of our group and help to guide the group with the traditions.

So if you are ever in the North End on a Thursday at 8PM please stop by and say "HI", we would love to see you.