

Submitted by Shani W. 11/21/2010

### History of The Border Group

Though the Border Group has been in existence since 1981, its roots can actually be traced back to April 15<sup>th</sup>, 1954. This was when Ralph Z., Tommy C., and Gordon (?) started the Clifton Group in Christ Church Parish Hall on what was then known as Clifton Ave. and River Rd. in Niagara Falls. The speakers were Dale McA from Buffalo, New York, and Walt M. of Hamilton, Ontario. This was to become a panel type meeting, with 3 speakers and a chairperson from the Clifton Group. One spoke on "What It Was Like", one on "Benefits", and the last on a Step or Tradition.

This group later moved to Kitchener Street United Church and then to the Firemen's Community hall on Dunn St., Niagara Falls. The group was there for several years, until Thursday November 7<sup>th</sup> 1963 when it moved to St. Paul's Lutheran Church Hall on Victoria Ave., Niagara Falls. While at this location it changed its name to the Canusa Group, to represent members of Canada and visiting members from the USA. This group ended up disbanding around 1979. From this, some of the members started the South End Group, which met at Southminster United Church on Hagar St. in Niagara Falls. This group then disbanded about a year later.

On August 27<sup>th</sup>, 1981, the Border Group was officially registered as an AA group, and it started holding meetings back at St. Paul's Lutheran Church on Victoria Ave. In March of 1998 it moved to St. Patrick's Parish Hall, also on Victoria Ave., Niagara Falls and it has been meeting there ever since on Thursday nights at 8:00 pm. We welcome anyone to come and join us.