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## **HISTORY OF THE MERRITTON GROUP**

This group was formed to meet the needs in that area.

Founding members were Bob J., Bill H. & Jim J. All three belonged to a Saturday night meeting called the East End Group.

Thursday was a preferred meeting night. This made the weekend free to enjoy family time.

We had three business meetings at the home of Jim J.

St. James Anglican Church opened their doors for our AA meetings.

This was a good fit because Al-Anon had started a group there a few months earlier.

The first meeting was June 21, 1979. Roger M. joined that night and became our fourth member.

Our first speaker was Kitch M. from the Rainbow Group in Niagara Falls. His magnetic personality drew a good turn out.

We used other AA members to help us complete all duties.

The group, which was based on a solid footing (AA principles) grew rapidly.

Kitch also spoke at our first group anniversary.

The East End group loaned their 12 Steps and 12 Traditions to use for the first few months until we were able to purchase our own.

AA in New York sent us a start up kit of literature, etc.

September, 1979 Bob J. saw the need to have a midnight discussion meeting. This was also Thursday at St. James Church. Just another extension of the Merritton group.

The midnight meeting served well for thirteen years. This meeting was of value to shift workers. Morning meetings became available every morning so the midnight meeting closed.

July 1, 2007, after 28 years at St. James Church the group moved to Elm St. United Church where it still meets.