

A Newsletter for the Pikes Peak Region of Alcoholics Anonymous

MAY, 2015

Upcoming Topics

The three legacies of AA:

Unity (June) Recovery (July) Service (August)



Inside this issue:

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HE PIKES PEAK PIN

"Living Life in AA"

Being in this program, it's easy for me to go to meetings, meet with my sponsor, meet with girls I work with and go through Every day I live the day as I think my creathe 12 steps. But it's what I do with these tor would want me to live and not what things outside in the "real world" that Alicia thinks is the way to live. I know by counts; if I truly want to make my life a doing this I'm doing as much as I can do at better one. Practicing these principles in the time. It's hard, but I must live with not all my affairs can be somewhat difficult if knowing what the outcome will be for me not living a humble life. I can't believe in this world. I must live in total faith that that since I'm sober now, I deserve to be I can handle situations that don't go the treated better than others, and that I should way I would want them to go. Taking life receive everything I want in this life. I day by day and not thinking too much of need to still take the actions on being hon- the future can only help my spiritual life est, open minded, and willing in the "real and principles to be a better member in AA world" to be the best AA member I can be. and in society. When I start to lose the step work I've learned in my everyday life, I start to lose the sunlight of God and think that being sober isn't what it is all cracked up to be. I must wake up every day grateful to be

alive, thank God by being kind to everyone, even if they're not in AA, with having faith that God has a plan for me.

Alicia S.

EDITOR'S NOTES

Principles in all Our Affairs

It's a design for living that nection with that power from several writers who really works, that's what I greater than myself and then share their experience with think of when I hear practithe inevitable hideous 4 practicing these principles tice these principles in all of horsemen would begin their in all of our affairs and how our affairs.

back to drinking. But worst rooms. of all I would die spiritually first causing me to lose con- This month you will hear ride again.

tainly

and having the obsession ening based off a despera- action! removed, I got to see that I tion to survive and grace to had some thoughts and be- guide the process, I got to From we here at the Pint, haviors that would create learn how to grow up in Have a Great Month! confusion rather than har- public and develop different mony, and my task was not behaviors and thoughts. I to live like the tornado I had learned to let God discipline been while I was drinking or me. This set me up for suc-

I would cer- cess at practicing these pringo ciples in and out of the

it saves their lives by taking that action. The miracle After putting down the drink Through an spiritual awak- comes on the other side of

Stormie

"When All Else Fails"

Alcoholics Anonymous is based off attraction rather than promotion and there is nothing more attractive to the newcomer, desperate for a solution, than another Alcoholic demonstrating a solution to the illness.

Carrying the message is a vital component of treating our illness and by practicing these principles in all of my affairs, I not only show the alcoholic still suffering that there is a better way of life, but I get outside myself.

I must perfect and enlarge my spiritual life or I will perish and there is no better method to staying spiritually connected than truly committing to this. When all else fails, helping another one of us does not.

Furthermore, the certain trials and low spots in my sobriety are combatted by this design for living which is utilized by practicing these principles in all of my affairs. When I have an honest desire to demonstrate this attitude for life, my spiritual malady ceases to be so very brutal and the world regains color once again.

Zack M.



"Pick Up a Tool and Use it"

My first time through the steps, I sailed right past the part about 'practicing these principles in all our affairs.' I did not see the steps as a way of life that would keep me on the beam to character building.

No, that involved effort. I liked the effort I put into writing step work, performing service, and helping newcomers. But the true effort involved in the A.A. program of recovery is in actually using the spiritual tools in any situation instead of my self-will tools. That's the kind of effort I rebelled against, because using my self-will tools was more familiar. It all became really painful.

Finally, I was in so much pain (sober!) that I surrendered and started sitting on my hands more, leaving my fingerprints off things ('leave no trace' as the Forest Service likes to say!). I paid more attention to trying out my new toolkit in my daily life. Whenever I practice new actions that the Steps gave me to live with my condition of having no power over alcohol, I receive a gift of emotional sobriety.

Real knowledge of our program does not come so much from studying and memorizing the lines. It comes from walking through an experience in a new way, no matter what, and then coming out the other side with an experience of walking through life. That's real knowledge, not book work, that I can now pass on to others – *how* to put those words into daily action. I also learned to be OK with trying new actions, falling on my face, and trying again – the line about 'progress, not perfection'.

These principles don't just stop with the Steps, either. There are 24 more principles that guide us: the 12 Traditions and the 12 Concepts. Those are two more sets of tools that enable us to get along with others and to perform service effectively.

I don't know how to live in the principle of Unity, so the Traditions show me how to live in unity with my fellow A.A.s – they basically are a set of principles around *inaction*. We don't tell you if you're an alcoholic or not, or tell you that can or cannot be a member of A.A, or how to run your group. We don't affiliate with outside entities or pay for 12th Step work. We don't put our ego into the game, but - with humility - put our principles of living over any personality (no one is on a pedestal here!). In doing so, a space opens up for us to be united around a common solution and carry a message of spiritual recovery from a hopeless condition of body and mind.

I also don't know how to interact effectively with the fellowship of A.A as a whole, so the Concepts are my guiding light toward *interaction*. We find our way of being together and making our own decisions as we use the Concepts' principles of handling authority and responsibility for an entire fellowship.

Personally, putting all 36 spiritual principles (as best I

"putting all 36 spiritual principles.. into action has blown the doors off my recovery.."

understand them
today) into
action has
blown the
doors off my
recovery –
situations

don't befuddle me like they

once did and I feel more grounded these days as I walk through life with God. That's not to say I don't hit rough patches – I sure do! But I also see the daylight ahead when I drop my old self-will toolkit and pick up one of the 36 spiritual tools and practice using it... especially when I don't want to do so!

Cris S.

"Practicing These Principles"

The importance of practicing AA's principles in all our affairs comes from the earliest days of AA. Ebby told Bill that doing so was an absolute necessity. Failure to do so – especially working with other alcoholics -- was deadly. "For if an alcoholic failed to perfect and enlarge his spiritual life through work and self-sacrifice for others, he could not survive the certain trials and low spots ahead. If he did not work, he would surely drink again, and if he drank again, he would surely die. Then faith would be dead indeed. With us it is just like that." Big Book, pp. 14-15.

So the Big Book tells me that working with others and practicing the other principles of AA is not just a matter of gaining peace and serenity – though it is surely that, too. The promises in the Big Book are very clear. Some of the most beautiful of the promises come from the Ninth Step: We will comprehend the word serenity and we will know peace. These promises will come true if we work for them.

But the main reason for trying to practice the principles of AA in all my affairs is very simple. If I don't do so, I will drink, and if I drink, I will die. Then I can no longer contribute to the stream of life. Along the way, I can help others to recover from this deadly disease, and can live a life that is marked by the real joy that comes from not trying to always run the show. That's a pretty good deal.

Paul L.





A.A. was founded on the premise that it would be self-supported through member contributions.

For the past 50 years, contributing a single dollar has been almost a tradition.



1960.	10¢
1970.	20¢
1980.	35¢
1990.	50¢
000	\$1.00
010	\$1.75
015	\$1.75



1960...25g 1970...65g 1980...\$1.65 1990...\$2.00 2000...\$3.00 2010...\$5.00



1960...22¢
1970...35¢
1980...90¢
1990...\$1.10
2000...\$1.20
2010...\$2.90
2015...\$3.00

Today's dollar has only 13 cents of the purchasing power of a 1960's dollar.



1960 ... \$ 1.00 1970 ... \$ 1.00 1980 ... \$ 1.00

1990 ... \$ 1.00

Acknowledging these economic facts, (keep in mind what your last drink cost you ©)

Why not responsibly compensate BY CONTRIBUTING

2 BUCKS FOR 2015!

For those who can't afford it, the important thing is to keep coming back.

This flyer is unofficial and has not been published by the General Service Office.



ICTIONARY CORNER

Spiritual:

Of the spirit or soul as distinguished from the body or material matters;

Relating to what is traditionally believed to be the vital principle or animating force within living beings; or

Of, from, or pertaining to God.

CONCEPT 5: Throughout our structure, a traditional "Right of Appeal" ought to prevail, so that minority opinion will be heard and personal grievances receive careful consideration.



Step 5:

Admitted to God, to ourselves and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.



TRADITION 5:

Each group has but one primary purpose
—to carry its message to the alcoholic
who still suffers.

TRADITIONS CHECKLIST

Tradition 5:

- 1. Do I ever cop out by saying, "I'm not a group, so this or that Tradition doesn't apply to me"?
- 2. Am I willing to explain firmly to a newcomer the limitations of AA help, even if he gets mad at me for not giving him a loan?
- 3. Have I today imposed on any AA member for a special favor or consideration simply because I am a fellow alcoholic?
- 4. Am I willing to twelfth-step the next newcomer without regard to who or what is in it for me?
- 5. Do I help my group in every way I can to fulfill our primary purpose?
- 6. Do I remember that AA old-timers, too, can be alcoholics who still suffer? Do I try both to help them and to learn from them?

Heard at a Meeting...

"My brain would kill me if it didn't need the transportation."

http://recoverycartoons.com

GROUP FORUM PAGE

MEETING CHANGES & GROUP BIRTHDAYS

Meeting Changes





CENTRAL GROUP

TUESDAY SPEAKERS

8:00 p.m.

 May 5:
 Rob G.
 25 yrs

 May12:
 Mo M.
 2 yrs

 May 19:
 Marc P.
 2 yrs.

 May 26:
 Bob H.
 40 yrs.



Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!!

FRIDAY WOMENS				
Marykatherine M.	33 yrs.			
Heidi G.	6 yrs.			
Jan H.	8 yrs.			
DiAnne B.	23 yrs.			
Karen L.	9 yrs.			
Nicole R.	7 yrs.			
Annikki	26 yrs.			

In the month of March the

Service Office received

6 Grateful Giver contributions and

1 Birthday contribution!

HAPPY HOUR		
Carol J.	16 yrs.	
Dana	7 yrs.	
Kathy I.	7 yrs.	

TUESDAY N	NEW WOMEN
Kathy B.	8 yrs.
Michelle G.	2 yrs.



EASY DOES IT			
Lisa C.	13 yrs.		
John W.	4 yrs.		
Chad V.	12 yrs.		
Trisha	6 yrs.		
Chris S.	36 yrs.		
Elizabeth S.	5 yrs.		
Matt D.	1 yr.		
Michael B.	2 yrs.		

GROUP NAME (2014-2015)	Fiscal Yr. to date	March	GROUP NAME (2014-2015)	Fiscal Yr. to date	March
Above the Bar Group		IVIAICII	Off The Wall		March
Apex	\$330.00 \$180.40		Old North End Study Group	\$198.20 \$215.38	
Back to Basics	\$160.40	\$84.00	Pre-Dawn Meeting	\$0.00	
Such to Buoloo	\$654.00	φ04.00	Primary Purpose - Men's	φ0.00	
Beacon Light Group	\$0.00		Group	\$210.00	
Big Book Action	\$586.72		Progress Not Perfection	\$450.29	\$23.00
Big Book Study UPH	\$844.31	\$250.00	Recovery in Action	\$642.88	
Black Forest	\$699.52		Saturday Early Morning Mtg.	\$315.60	
Broadmoor	\$0.00		Saturday Morning Anonymous Group	\$104.67	
Brown Baggers	\$150.00		Security Eye Opener	\$54.49	
Central	\$10.00		Serenity Hour	\$600.00	\$75.00
Clean Air Group	\$141.00		Serenity Riders	\$264.56	, 2.20
Don't Worry Be Happy	\$680.45	\$323.67	Serenity Sisters	\$350.60	
Down By The Creek	\$36.00		Solutions at Noon	\$590.63	\$51.20
Downtown Group	\$2,604.22		Sought Through Prayer & Meditation	\$282.60	\$16.00
Orylander's Group	\$0.00		Steel Magnolias	\$222.16	
Easy Does It	\$614.43		Stepping Stones	\$0.00	
Ellicott Group	\$367.90		Sunday Morning Speaker	\$1,590.49	\$240.00
Foxhall Group	\$174.55	\$174.55	Sunday Night Big Book Study (Clean Slate) Sunlight of the Spirit -	\$0.00	
Freedom From Bondage	\$60.00		Women's 12x12 (Monument)	\$475.00	
Friday Night Live	\$1,130.50		Taking Steps	\$0.00	
Friday Women's Group	\$544.00		The Doctor's Opinion	\$300.00	
Good Ole Boys	\$90.55		The Garage Meeting	\$106.00	
Happy Destiny	\$539.60	\$117.84	The Sober Jokers	\$200.00	
Happy Heathens	\$450.00		Then and Now	\$234.30	
Happy Hour	\$248.46		Thursday Mens	\$1,750.00	
Happy, Joyous & Free	\$370.00		Thursday NoonWoodland Park	\$130.00	
High Noon	\$227.00	\$30.00	Treating The Illness	\$152.50	
H.O.W.	\$70.00		Turning Point	\$48.56	
nto Action	\$360.00		Ute Pass Breakfast Group	\$300.00	
Keystone to Recovery	\$0.00		Veterans for AA	\$0.00	
Lake George Group	\$130.00	\$130.00	Walk the Talk	\$5,634.20	\$850.00
Little Log Church Group	\$188.00		Walking on Water	\$250.00	
Living Free	\$246.50		We Are Not Saints	\$1,322.57	\$582.73
Living Sober South	\$311.64	\$14.50	Wed. Westside Womens	\$0.00	
Meditation Group			Westside Eye Opener	\$175.00	
M.A.G.	\$626.12		Women of Grace	\$112.00	
Natural High	\$33.00		Woodland Park Beginners	\$100.00	
New Beginners	\$687.08		Woodland Park Book Study Woodland Park Women's	\$478.33	
New Woman	\$862.96		Step Study	\$15.55	
Northwesters	\$655.00		Young People	\$974.27	
			Totals:	\$34,954.74	\$2,962.49

ARCHIVES PRESENTS: AA in Colorado Springs 12 Steppers

Dateline: September 1949

September 29, 1949

Twelfth Steppers? When an AA member responds to a call from another alcoholic having difficulty with their attempts to stay sober, or just needing someone to talk to, this assistance is commonly referred to as a "Twelve Step Call." Here is a brief example of how early Twelve Step Calls were set up.

Your response to Tuesday night's request for workers was indeed heartwarming. Following are teams selected:

Team A will be available for the remainder of this week.

Team B for the week starting Sunday night.

There after teams will make calls on alternate week, thus;

Feel privileged to make calls at least one night in two weeks. If personal arrangements interfere with anyone making the call on his night, have a willing substitute from your team available, or arrange for one of the men listed for that night of the alternate week to take his place.

Until Mildred A. returns, it cannot be stated definitely that she will act as secretary to the board appointed by the council. However, A and B Teams should be advised.

In the meantime, attached is a sample of the case history form to be maintained by the acting secretary. It will be required of an AA sponsor to furnish the secretary of the board the information necessary to complete all forms below block one.



Temporarily, each team will contact Lew B., Group Secretary, on the group phone on their appointed night to ascertain if the call was necessary that night and to signify their availability to make the calls.

Bob B. Reed Mc, and Phil M will serve as Sponsor Committee for their week to assist the patients leaving the hospital with selecting a sponsor. Ray G, Tom K, and Bud S will serve in the same capacity for their week.

The room set aside at the hospital is in the west wing of the Men's Building. Just ring the bell at the door and announce yourself and purpose to the attendant when he appears.





Here is the tentative schedule for Twelve Step-

Sunday	Phil G/Emmet S	Vern S/John M
Monday	Bob B/Chas D	Ray G/ Reldar L
Tuesday	Bruce T/Frank K	Tom K/Ben S
Wednesday	Art L/Jim R	Harold T/Clem H
Thursday	Reed C/Tony L	Ed G/Carl R
Friday	Lee H/Herb S	Dick E/Jim B
Saturday	Phil M/Morgan H	Bud S/Bob T



NIGHTWATCH COMMITTEE MEETING



The Purpose of Nightwatch

TRADITION FIVE

Each Group Has But One Primary Purpose-To Carry Its Message To The Alcoholic Who Still Suffers

NIGHTWATCH COMMITTEE MEETING

The 1 Tuesday Of Every Month At 7PM, We Meet At Sacred Heart Parish 2021 West Pikes Peak Ave Room 10 *upstairs*

(corner of 21 street and Pikes Peak)

Contact Info: Service Office 24hr Hotline (719) 573-5020 www.coloradospringsaa.org

1353 S. 8th Street, Suite 209 Colorado Springs, CO 80905





THE ONLY REQUIREMENTS ARE 1 YEAR OF CONTINUOUS SOBRIETY AND A 1 YEAR COMMITMENT OF SERVICE

· CONTRIBUTION ADDRESSES ·

~ AREA SERVICE OFFICE ~

Colorado Springs Area Service Office 1353 South 8th St., Suite 209 Colorado Springs, CO 80905

(Include group name and number on check)

~ GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE ~

P.O. Box 459 - Grand Central Station New York, NY 10163

(Include group name and number on check)

~ AREA 10 ~

Area 10 Treasurer 12081 West Alameda Parkway #418 Lakewood, CO 80228

(Include group name, number and District 7 on check)

~ DISTRICT 7 ~

District 7

P.O. Box 26252

Colorado Springs, CO 80936

(Include group name, number and district 7 on check)

~ PINK CAN CONTRIBUTIONS ~

Pink Can Contributions

P.O. Box 40368 Denver, CO 80204

(Make checks payable to Area 10 Corrections Committee)

(Include group name and number on check)

• CASH ACCEPTED IN PERSON ONLY •

COMMITTEE INFORMATION

Public Information:

Committee Meeting: 1st Saturday, 2:00 p.m., 1st floor Penrose Main Hospital, 2222 N. Nevada in Volunteer Coordinator Conference Room.

Cooperation with the Professional Community:

Committee Meeting: 6:00 p.m., 2nd Wednesday of the month at Vertec, 1123 Elkton Dr.

District 7:

Committee Meeting: 7:30 pm, 3rd Tuesday of the month at 420 N. Nevada, First United Methodist Church Room 135 (Boulder St. Access)

Treatment:

Committee Meeting: 12-1 pm, 2nd Saturday of the month, at Penrose Hospital Volunteer Conference Room, 2222 N. Nevada.

Nightwatch:

Night Owls Committee Meetings: 7:00 p.m., 1st Tuesday of the month at Sacred Heart Parish, 21st and Pikes Peak Room 10 - Following the New Beginners meeting.

Archives:

Archive Committee Meetings: 6:00 p.m., 1st Tuesday of the month at Service Office, 1353 S. 8th Street, Suite 209

Special Needs:

Committee Meetings: 1:00 p.m., last Saturday of every even month at 309 S. Hancock Ave.

For more committee information including intergroup committees please go to coloradospringsaa.org

Local Service Office

Hours: Monday-Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. SAT.-SUN.: CLOSED

Location: 1353 South 8th Street, Suite 209, Colorado Springs, CO 80905

Contact the Service Office for Intergroup information 719-573-5020

E-mail: serviceoffice@coloradospringsaa.org Web site: www.coloradospringsaa.org

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UPCOMING EVENTS



2015 Area 10 Colorado State Convention "Sponsorship in Action"

September 4- 6, 2015

Please join us in Colorado Springs for a great time with speakers, meetings, workshops, a banquet, a dance, social times and other adventures in AA fellowship. It's time to book your hotel room, register for the event and get the car ready to go!

Flyer: http://coloradospringsaa.org/images/pdf/events/2015 AA Convention Flyer.pdf

Visit http://coloradospringsaa.org/news-events/events/50-2015-a10conv for more information

2015 International Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous "Happy, Joyous, Free"

July 2 - 5, 2015 - Atlanta, Georgia

The 2015 International Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous will be held July 2 - 5, 2015 in Atlanta, Georgia with the theme "80 Years – Happy, Joyous and Free." A.A. members and guests from around the world will celebrate A.A.'s 80th year at this event with big meetings held Friday night, Saturday night and Sunday morning in the Georgia Dome. Other meetings, scheduled or informal, will take place throughout the weekend in the Georgia World Congress Center and local hotels.

Registration will be available at the *2015 International Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous website at aa.org starting September 3, 2014. *All information can be found at the local AA website: www.coloradospringsaa.org

The CSASO Intergroup Programs Committee Presents

The Annual Longtimers Dinner

Saturday, May 9, 2015 at 5 PM

Fellowship Hall (downstairs at First United Methodist Church)

420 N. Nevada Ave., Colorado Springs CO 80903 Parking on the north side of Church

Celebrate the joy of our elder statesmen and women in the fellowship!

- Dinner begins at 5:00 pm
- Steve L. speaks at the event after dinner

All are welcome to attend; tickets at \$10.00 at the door Longtimers (18+ years of continuous sobriety) free of charge See you there!

RSVP PLEASE!
Call us at 719-573-5020
Leave your name and number in your party!

District 7 Committee Workshop Saturday, May 2nd 9AM to 12:00



Central United Methodist Church 4373 Galley Rd., Colorado Springs

(We can separate rooms for better discussion)

Please join us for a morning with donuts, coffee, fellowship and interaction on how our committees work within our community!

<u>Including:</u> Round Table Discussions w/ Standing Committee Chairs:
Treatment, Public Information, Cooperation With The Professional Community, Corrections

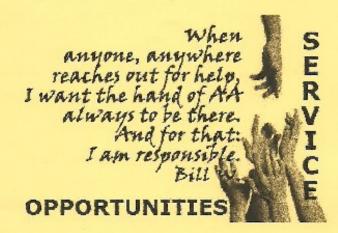
District 7 Will Provide Coffee and Donuts

"To the world you may be one person, but to that one person you may be the world" Bill W.

Contact DCM7@coloradospringsaa.org for more information

Delegate Report and AA 101 Potluck

July 11th 2015 10:30am United Methodist Church 420 N. Nevada



Come and hear the latest news from GSO And learn the fundamentals of AA service structure