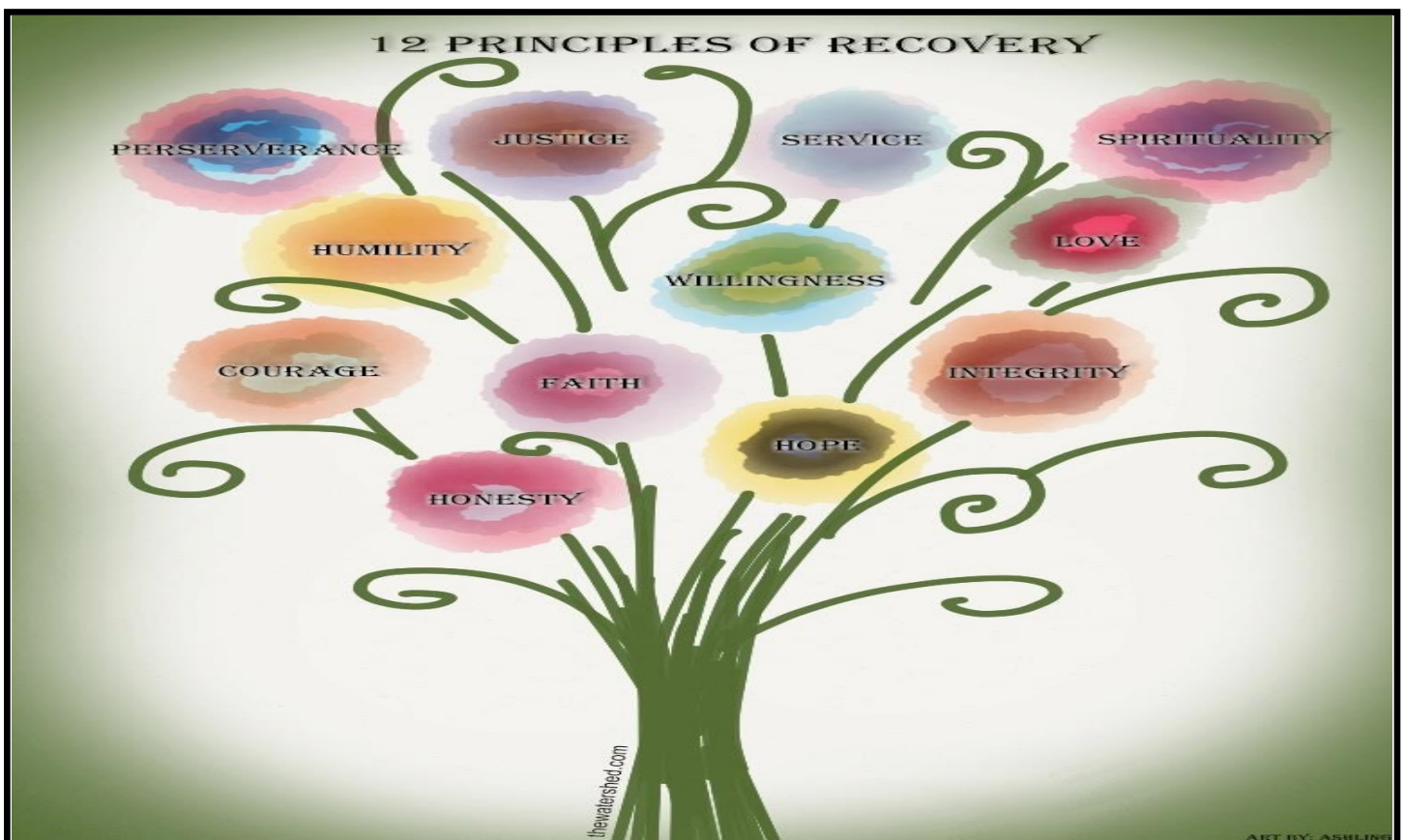




THE PIKES PEAK PINT

October, 2017

A newsletter for the Pikes Peak Region of Alcoholics Anonymous



She lost almost it all ...

Our disease is 100 percent fatal, but our death has been delayed because our work here is not done yet. I call this my journey – not my story – since my journey never ends.

I am an alcoholic. These words

were the first words I ever uttered that were honest and the first ounce of humility that I ever felt in my life. I am the type of alcoholic who lost almost everything.

My journey with alcohol truly began at the age of 18. I had tried alcohol many times before this, but

this would be what I call my black-out era. For many years, I allowed for alcohol to be the master, the king, the emperor in my life. It made me feel free as if I could conquer the world as long as I had a bottle. The years progressed, and

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Easy Does It:

Craig V.	10/7/95
Dan L.	10/18/03
Darrell L.	10/17/13
Jade M.	10/24/16!!
Jeff C.	10/2/15
Kevin C.	10/7/01
Leslee C.	10/10/11
Peggy S.	10/9/13
Ruby E.	10/3/16!!
Sam J.	10/7/16!!
Scott H.	10/14/09
Tom M.	10/11/13

New Woman:

Kathy F.	40 years
Mariellyn M.	45 years
Angie N.	29 years
Susan S.	2 years
Patti T.	2 years

Friday Women's:

Cyndi M.	4 years
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Downtown:

Jen B.	10/2/13
Anthony D.	10/4/12
Dave L.	10/4/10
Annie S.	10/4/04
Don T.	10/5/11
Everett L.	10/8/82
Mike H.	10/9/11
Damian H.	10/11/09
Angelica	10/15/11
Ryan L.	10/17/15
Dustin P.	10/19/15
Kelly A.	10/19/15
Donovan L.	10/19/11
Joey B.	10/20/03
Christine H.	10/20/12
Tomas M.	10/22/05
Vince	10/26/13
Jessica T.	10/31/09
Miguel	10/31/14
Mike M.	10/31/15

We Are Not Saints:

Amy C.	30 years
Lee W.	28 years
Sandra D.	35 years
Shannon D.	1 year!!
Wendy M.	8 years

Serenity Riders:

Paul H.	10/19/97
Peggy B.	10/18/90
Tonia Sue R.	10/10/09
Everett L.	10/8/82
Brandon P.	10/13/15
Dan L.	10/18/03

Young People's Group reaches middle age ...

... though you're not quite ready for AARP! Happy birthday, Young People's AA Group of Colorado Springs!

Light 40 candles for yourselves, as the Young People's AA Group celebrated 40 years in existence on Sept. 26.

AA member Darshan was kind enough to remind us that the group was founded in 1977 and first met in a room above a then-popular youth bar in downtown Colorado Springs. And look at you now! Happy birthday, young people!

Happy Heathens:

Meredith K.	14 years
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Steel Magnolias:

Becky	24 years
Terri	4 years

STEP 10:

Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong, promptly admitted it.

10

TRADITION 10:

Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the A.A. name ought never be drawn into public controversy

TRADITION 10 CHECKLIST:

1. Do I ever give the impression that there really is an “AA opinion” on Antabuse? Tranquilizers? Doctors? Psychiatrists? Churches? Hospitals? Jails? Alcohol? The federal or state government? Legalizing marijuana? Vitamins? Al-Anon? Alateen?
2. Can I honestly share my own personal experience concerning any of those without giving the impression I am stating the “AA opinion”?
3. What in AA history gave rise to our Tenth Tradition?
4. Have I had a similar experience in my own AA life?
5. What would AA be without this Tradition? Where would I be?
6. Do I breach this or any of its supporting Traditions in subtle, perhaps unconscious, ways?
7. How can I manifest the spirit of this Tradition in my personal life outside AA? Inside AA? And bylaws?

CONCEPT 10:

Every service responsibility should be matched by an equal service authority, with the scope of such authority well defined.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS:

GROUP (2017-2018)	YTD	August
A Common Solution	\$70.00	\$0.00
12 Steps From The Morgue	\$181.50	\$0.00
Apex	\$193.43	\$0.00
Back to Basics	\$499.39	\$99.80
Beacon Light Group		
Big Book Action	\$150.00	
Big Book Study UPH		
Black Forest	\$357.13	
Broadmoor		
Brown Baggers		
Central	\$10.00	
Clean Air Group		
Don't Worry Be Happy	\$807.21	\$344.38
Down By The Creek		
Downtown Group	\$524.09	
Drylander's Group		
Easy Does It	\$854.74	
Ellicott Group		
4th Dimension Rocketeers		
Foxhall Group	\$250.00	
Friday Night Live	\$401.00	
Friday Women's Group	\$450.00	
Good Ole Boys	\$100.00	
Happy Destiny		
Happy Heathens		
Happy Hour		
Happy, Joyous & Free		
High Noon	\$70.00	\$30.00
H.O.W.		
Into Action	\$136.65	
Keystone to Recovery	\$100.00	
Lake George Group		
Limon AA	\$25.00	\$25.00
Little Log Church Group	\$34.00	
Living Free		
Living Sober South	\$151.13	\$26.81
M.A.G.	\$422.00	
Meditation Group		
Natural High		
New Beginners	\$178.24	
New Woman	\$376.50	
Northwesters		

GROUP (2017-2018)	YTD	August
Off The Wall	\$71.92	
Old North End Study Group	\$94.03	
One Six Four Group	\$158.63	
Pre-Dawn Meeting	\$190.00	
Primary Purpose	\$150.00	
Progress Not Perfection		
Recovery in Action	\$227.00	
Recovery, Unity, Service Group		
Saturday Early Morning Mtg.	\$403.40	
Saturday Morning Anonymous		
Security Eye Opener	\$245.00	
Serenity Hour	\$250.00	\$50.00
Serenity Riders	\$237.47	
Serenity Sisters		
Sober Sisters	\$52.62	
Solutions at Noon		
Sought Through Prayer & Meditation	\$98.48	\$45.00
Steel Magnolias	\$164.78	
Stepping Stones		
Sunday Morning Speaker		
Sunlight of the Spirit	\$200.00	
Taking Steps		
The Doctor's Opinion		
The Garage Meeting	\$52.00	\$15.00
Then and Now	\$189.61	
Thursday Men's Group	\$150.00	
Thursday Noon--WP	\$61.53	
Traditions Only		
Treating The Illness		
Turning Point		
Ute Pass Breakfast Group		
Veterans for AA	\$75.00	
Walk the Talk	\$2,125.00	\$425.00
Walking on Water	\$120.00	\$60.00
We Are Not Saints	\$879.79	
Westside Eye Opener		
Women of Grace	\$145.00	
Woodland Park Beginners		
Woodland Park Book Study	\$250.00	
Woodland Park Women's Step Study		
Young People		
Totals:	\$12,933.27	\$1,120.99



Meeting changes and other news

Primary Purpose now asks questions

The Saturday 6 p.m. Primary Purpose group has changed its name, though its primary purpose remains the same: To stay sober and help others to recover from alcoholism. The new name is Ask It Basket. The format has changed to allow newcomers to ask questions related to recovery from alcoholism. In response, AAs who have, well, “been here a while” will share their experience, strength and hope. This group meets at 3958 N. Academy, Ste. 103.

After Hours asleep for now

The Downtown Group’s Sunday Night After Hours meeting that had met at 7 p.m. has voted to close this meeting on Sept. 15.

Young People, seek the awning of a new day

The Young People’s Group meets Saturdays at 6:30 and Mondays and Wednesdays at 8 p.m. at First Christian Church, 16 E. Platte Ave. The group has a new way to describe how to enter its meeting space. Now, enter from the parking lot, under the blue awning.

Thank You!

During August, the Service Office received 2 Grateful Giver contributions and 3 personal contributions!

Thanks to your generous donations, the Service Office is able to keep spreading the hope of Alcoholics Anonymous to residents and visitors of the Pikes Peak Region.

**I’m thankful for
my struggle,
because without it,
I wouldn’t have
found my strength**

Sponsor: Check your motives

When I first came in to the program, I thought honesty was being honest when talking with someone. Now I realize honesty is also within myself. To be totally honest with myself, I now check my motives when I do something, such as when and why I go to a particular meeting. What is my motive for going?

I never thought I could be a 13th-stepper, but I found out how easy it is. It messed with my head and my serenity. I couldn't figure out what was wrong with me. But then I realized I had fallen for a newcomer.

I spent all my time trying to get him to like me and thinking of ways to be with him, like going to meetings he went to. I never put his sobriety ahead of my feelings. It was all about me! But I didn't see

then how destructive it was for him. Not only did it test my sobriety — it tested my integrity.

It doesn't say anywhere in the big book about this, but it's important since it has taken almost three years and a new sponsor to realize the wrong I was doing and how my motives were not that of my higher power. I wasn't living in the program. I now realize that to grow and become spiritually fit, the program *must* come first.

Needless to say, being single is not easy for me.

So today living in the program and putting my sobriety in my higher power's hands, working closely with my sponsor on the sex inventory, finding the unhealthy ways I dealt with romantic and friend relationships, I have begun to work on

building my self-esteem and changing my thinking on how healthy relationships work.

Today I know when my higher power feels I should be in a relationship. When that happens, I will be ready. But until then, I'm working on being a friend to all people, including the fellow I once chased.

I know now I must share my strength, experience and hope that I have learned from my sponsor.

What a difference now that my motive is to build up the program and help others to realize spiritual fitness is more important. I am growing in the program and my spiritual awareness is more important to me. I am so blessed to have been given such a wonderful sponsor who is strict but loving.

— Anonymous

My mother twice gave me the gift of life

(from page 1)

my best friend was not so kind.

I always say my mother gave me the gift of life twice. After many attempts at trying to “slow down” or “swear off the hard stuff for good,” my mother 12th-stepped me when I was 24. I am what they call a “go see if you are truly alcoholic” type of gal. I had many failed attempts at trying to stay sober.

I became sober only for important events or when fear of jails, homelessness, or losing my relationships with others kicked in. For seven years, I battled this disease, thinking that I knew better and never truly allowing for anyone to see how dark my life had become.

The year 2015 rolled around. I was married. A man, I thought, would solve all of my problems.

We had a beautiful daughter in addition to the son I raked through my alcoholic destruction. My father passed away. The biggest gift my father gave to me was the realization that I could not live a life based solely on alcohol.

Unfortunately, after he died, the worst of my disease had yet to come. In less than a year, I lost custody of my children to DHS, lost the respect of my family members, and almost lost my nursing career. It was time that I finally accept reality and die. This was my last thought on my last day drunk. I clearly remember uttering, “Please help me. I need treatment, I need help.”

I was fortunate. I went to treatment. Once finished with treatment, I came to Colorado Springs. I found a sponsor who I call “my OG” be-

cause she keeps me in line. Each step gave me more freedom than the last as she called me out on my “thinking.”

As I worked this program with intensity, things I could not control started happening. I experienced a lot of death . . . and a lot of rejoicing. I have a life today that I could never have dreamed:

I have maintained the job of my choice; I have regained custody of my children; I no longer have judicial issues; and I am regaining my self-worth.

I see now that my disease was never just about my drinking, but about my thinking.

As each day passes, I glimpse back to the shell I used to be, and I thank my higher power for changing who I am.

— Anonymous

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

719-573-5020

E-mail: serviceoffice@coloradospringsaa.org

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

CORRECTIONS:

9 a.m., 3rd Saturday of the month

Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 21st & Colorado Ave.

PUBLIC INFORMATION:

2 p.m., 1st Saturday of the month

Penrose Hospital, 2222 N. Nevada Ave.

Volunteer Coordinator Conference Room

C.P.C. (PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY):

1 p.m., 4th Saturday of the month

Sand Creek Library, 1821 S. Academy Blvd.

large study room

DISTRICT 7:

7 p.m., 3rd Tuesday of the month

First United Methodist Church

420 N. Nevada, Room 135 (Boulder Street access)

TREATMENT:

NEW: 5:30 p.m., 3rd Thursday of the month

Penrose Hospital, 2222 N. Nevada Ave.

NEW: Board Room

NIGHTWATCH:

7 p.m., 1st Tuesday of the month

Sacred Heart Parish

21st and Pikes Peak Ave.

Room 10 - Following the New Beginners' meeting

SPECIAL NEEDS and ARCHIVES:

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

For more info., please visit coloradospringsaa.org

WHERE TO SEND CONTRIBUTIONS

~ AREA SERVICE OFFICE ~

Payable to: 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 ~

Payable to: GSO

P.O. Box 459 - Grand Central Station

New York, NY 10163

(Include group name and number on check)

~ AREA 10 ~

Payable to: Area 10 Treasurer

12081 West Alameda Parkway #418

Lakewood, CO 80228

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

~ DISTRICT 7 ~

Payable to: District 7

P.O. Box 26252

Colorado Springs, CO 80936

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

~ PINK CAN CONTRIBUTIONS ~

Payable to: Area 10 Corrections Committee

P.O. Box 40368

Denver, CO 80204

(Include group name and number on check)

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