



# THE PIKES PEAK PINT

February 2018

A newsletter for the Pikes Peak Region of Alcoholics Anonymous

## Sponsorship vital to me

The term “sponsorship” is not specifically mentioned in the text of Alcoholics Anonymous; however, the phrase “work with others” appears many times and is a vital component to a person’s sobriety.

Page 89 of the Big Book states, “Practical experience shows that nothing will so much insure immunity from drinking as intensive work with other alcoholics. It works when other activities fail. This is our twelfth suggestion: Carry this message to other alcoholics! You can help when no one else can. You can secure their confidence when others fail. Remember that they are very ill.”

Throughout my nine years of sobriety, my sponsors have played a vital role in my life as a sober woman. Each of my four sponsors has a pivotal place in my story. Their experience, strength and hope have guided me in one way or another, to get me to this point thus far. The lessons they’ve taught me,

learned from their sponsors, helped form my sobriety and the way I work with other women in the program.

**1** My first sponsor, I’ll refer to as D, taught me the newcomer must be willing to go to any lengths to keep her sobriety. Does that mean we’ll be asked to

Many newcomers are given this suggestion. I thought, “What on earth would we have to talk about?” I was also asked to call random women in the program using phone lists meetings. I was embarrassed and thought I would be wasting the time of the persons I called. Little did I know how

powerful it is to receive one of those calls.

Eventually I learned when some new gal followed what was suggested to her, and my number was one she called, how wonderful it is to help others. The call immediately took my mind off the bad day I was having and turned my thoughts to “working with oth-



do absurd tasks? No, quite the contrary. They likely ask us to do what they were asked to do when they were the newcomer.

D fired me a few months into my sobriety because I was not willing, at that time, to do what she asked.

I was supposed to call her daily.

ers.”

D also showed me a paragraph in the book which remains to this day, my favorite: “The fact is that most alcoholics, for reasons yet obscure, have lost the power of choice in

*See Sponsor, page 7*

Marijuana, LGBTQ, religion, oh my!

# Hot-button topics explored at AA workshop

The Round Robin workshop Jan. 13 was not only informative, but a well-organized and educational way to explore hot-button topics.

All questions came from the AA members of the Pikes Peak region and were collected prior to the workshop. The format encouraged active participation in an interactive setting.

And yes, there was free pizza!

After the meeting opened with the Serenity Prayer, How It Works, and the traditions, the group was broken up into three smaller sections. Each small group was led by two district board members who had three questions. Each group selected a secretary to take notes during the discussion and present the group's comments and conclusions at the end of the workshop.

Topics and discussions:

**Is it a conflict of interest to have two positions in different entities (i.e. intergroup and district)?**

This question turned out to be a rather loaded one. When it came to voting on a district level issue the

*See Round Robin, page 9*



## Easy Does It

Lyle H.	2-1-87
Karl N.	2-1-98
Bridg	2-1-14
Derek S.	2-2-13
Joie	2-3-88
<b>Kelli S.</b>	<b>2-3-17!!</b>
Carrie E.	2-5-10
Mike C.	2-5-97
Richard N.	2-8-09
Tom G.	2-8-84
Johnny M.	2-9-15
<b>Shelli T.</b>	<b>2-28-17!!</b>
Ricci C.	2-8-15

## Serenity Riders

Alice D.	2-26-88
Dan J.	2-10-87
Joe C.	2-21-03
Lindsey N.	2-15-09
Leslie A.	2-24-14
Patsy P.	2-17-16
Pete B.	2-5-89
Sheila O.	2-1-00
William J.	2-14-97

## Steel Magnolias

Dana R. 21 years

## New Woman

Caren L.	12 years
Toni M.	9 years
Lisa J.	6 years
Amy M.	6 years
Shawn B.	35 years
<b>Lori W.</b>	<b>1 year!!</b>

## Walk The Talk

Ross S.	2-27-04
Sean P.	2-14-11
Kathy B.	2-16-14
Ron S.	2-5-04
Jerry	2-22-89
Derek S.	2-2-13
<b>Joey+Thor</b>	<b>2-13-17!!</b>
<b>Natasha</b>	<b>2-25-17!!</b>
Daren R.	2-27-03
David A.	2-11-13
Dan	2-23-14
Bev H.	2-26-09

## We Are Not Saints

Catherine N.	17 years
David R.	13 years
Melissa E.	19 years
Molly	5 years
Patrick S.	9 years

## Friday Women's

Lynn E.	8 years
<b>Mindy G.</b>	<b>1 year!!</b>

## When's YOUR A.A. birthday?

If you want your birthday listed here and you want us to celebrate God's and your accomplishments along with you, please send your name, date, year, and home group to [pint@coloradospringsaa.org](mailto:pint@coloradospringsaa.org).

# STEP 2:

Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.



## CONCEPT 2:

*The General Service Conference of A.A. has become, for nearly every practical purpose, the active voice and the effective conscience of our whole Society in its world affairs.*

- ◆ Do we have an understanding of the history of the General Service Conference (the “Conference”)?
- ◆ What is a Conference Advisory Action? Does our home group’s G.S.R., D.C.M., area delegate report back to the group on the highlights of the Conference and Conference Advisory Actions?
- ◆ Is our group meeting its wider Seventh Tradition responsibilities?

## TRADITION 2:

For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority — a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.

## TRADITION 2 CHECKLIST:

1. Do I criticize or do I trust and support my group officers, AA committees, and office workers? Newcomers? Old-timers?
2. Am I absolutely trustworthy, even in secret, with AA Twelfth Step jobs or other AA responsibility?
3. Do I look for credit in my AA jobs? Praise for my AA ideas?
4. Do I have to save face in group discussion, or can I yield in good spirit to the group conscience and work cheerfully along with it?
5. Although I have been sober a few years, am I still willing to serve my turn at AA chores?
6. In group discussions, do I sound off about matters on which I have no experience and little knowledge?

# Step 11 helpful in challenging times

When asked to volunteer to write for The Pikes Peak Pint a few months ago, I had little clue how important this simple task of service would be in my recovery walk until this very moment.

I will share my experience on the actions suggested in Step 11. The actions help me connect to the One who has all Power – some days better than others – depending on my willingness to step aside and let Him drive the agenda.

St. Augustine of Hippo said, “Our hearts are restless until they rest in Thee.”

How true that is for this alcoholic!

When I first walked into the rooms this time around, “non-purest” men in AA suggested I read

and practice the principles shared on pages 84-88 in the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous starting on



my first day sober. They said these pages would help me stop doing damage while I progressed through the rest of the steps. They said the actions would help me move into a spiritual space. I guess it was part of what worked because I stayed sober. Little did I realize early in sobriety how profoundly meaningful this step would become in my recovery journey.

The past year has been eventful, to say the least. Change seems to be the theme – not accidental change either. I became willing to change, and it almost seemed the universe demanded change from me. I was reminded by my sponsor of the “more important demonstration of these principles” being in my home, occupations, and affairs.

A willingness to change resulted in a conscious decision to leave a marriage of 29 years. My part in the marriage was rooted in wrong motives. There was much pain and discomfort associated with the fallout from this decision for my family and those close to us. There has been much worldly judgment around the decision as well. Many friends have faded away. I know

the Creator and the fellowship have lent me some “power to carry that out.” They continue to do so during difficult moments when I struggle.

Then a new relationship with an incredible woman unfolded into my life. The relationship is wonderful. It’s based in a spirit of care, trust, respect, honesty, and a deep desire to see each other grow in a spiritual experience. Then, a new career opportunity unfolded into my life. This opportunity places me in a position to be very useful in the lives of

young people. I can’t believe I get paid to do what I do today!

Finally, on Oct. 27, 2017, by taking right action one day at a time, being a servant in the fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous, and doing what those ahead of me have done to demonstrate a manner of living that really works, I was able to celebrate 10 years of recovery. This, after a 33-year, aptly named “self-imposed crisis” under the lash of alcoholism. What a miracle!

Step 11 promises inspiration and intuitive thoughts. Sometimes it’s difficult for me to connect my knowledge of God’s will for me to knowledge of right action. However, my experience last year show me there are no accidents. When I seek God’s will, I may not hear an audible answer. What I’ve sensed is His presence during reflection and in decision-making. One friend told me if I’m asking for His will deeply and honestly, I should be confident He is informing me. I can also be sure God will not abandon my efforts because I’ve invited Him into my thoughts.

*See Step 11, page 7*

## Thank you

**During December, the Service Office received 3 Grateful Giver contributions, 2 Personal contributions, and 3 Birthday 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.**



## *Meeting changes ...*

### **Changes happen at 11th Hour**

The formerly closed 11th Hour meeting on Fort Carson that had been held at 4355 Funk Avenue has moved. It is now held at the Chaplain Family Life Center, 6282 Barkeley Ave., Building 1659, at the corner of Barkeley and Prussman. This meeting is now open and still is child-friendly with handicap accessibility.

### **New women's meeting**

The new Recovering Women discussion, newcomer meeting takes place Thursdays at 4 p.m. at Rocky Mountain Recovery Foundation, 4360 Montebello Drive, Suite 700.

### **Wednesday group deleted**

The Downtown Group that met Wednesdays at 7 p.m. at 210 N. Corona is no longer meeting.

### **Eyes open 30 minutes later**

The Security Eye Opener meeting that had meet Sundays at 10 a.m. now meets at 10:30 a.m. at 3760 Astrozon Blvd.

### **They speak, we get & *stay* sober**

Speakers for the Saturday 7 p.m. meeting at Walk the Talk will be:

- Feb. 3, Owen B.
- Feb. 10, Mica
- Feb. 17, Matthew P.
- Feb. 24, Trisha

## *... and other news*

### **They speak, we get & *stay* sober**

Speakers for the Saturday 7 p.m. meeting at the Red Cloud Serenity Club, 10400 Ute Pass Ave. in Green Mountain Falls, will be:

- Feb. 3, Sean P., 6 years
- Feb. 10, Julie A., 15 years
- Feb. 24, Matt H., 11 years



# THANK YOU FOR YOUR GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS:

GROUP (2017/2018)	YTD	Dec.	GROUP (2017/2018)	YTD	Dec.
A Common Solution	\$206.55	\$51.00	Off The Wall	\$147.98	
12 Steps From The Morgue	\$181.50		Old North End Study Group	\$224.03	
Apex	\$437.00	\$50.00	One Six Four Group	\$248.63	
Back to Basics	\$1,067.02	\$163.78	Pre/Dawn Meeting	\$380.00	\$70.00
Beacon Light Group			Primary Purpose	\$150.00	
Big Book Action	\$488.00	\$88.00	Progress Not Perfection		
Big Book Study UPH	\$324.00	\$74.00	Recovery in Action	\$683.70	\$61.70
Black Forest	\$422.38	\$65.25	Recovery, Unity, Service Group	\$291.00	
Broadmoor			Saturday Early Morning Meeting	\$899.00	\$162.00
Brown Baggers	\$150.00		Saturday Morning Anonymous		
Central	\$146.07	\$136.07	Security Eye Opener	\$281.00	\$36.00
Clean Air Group			Serenity Hour	\$425.00	\$25.00
Don't Worry Be Happy	\$1,303.27	\$229.96	Serenity Riders	\$237.47	
Down By The Creek			Serenity Sisters	\$305.10	\$158.00
Downtown Group	\$1,049.10	\$525.01	Sober Sisters	\$112.50	
Drylander's Group			Solutions at Noon		
Easy Does It	\$984.22		Sought Through Prayer & Meditation	\$177.51	\$56.53
Ellicott Group	\$302.00		Steel Magnolias	\$384.68	
4th Dimension Rocketeers	\$145.00		Stepping Stones		
Foxhall Group	\$450.00	\$200.00	Sunday Morning Speaker		
Friday Night Live	\$513.50		Sunlight of the Spirit	\$697.95	\$99.00
Friday Women's Group	\$898.00		Taking Steps		
Good Ole Boys	\$350.00	\$150.00	The Doctor's Opinion		
Happy Destiny	\$256.47	\$38.00	The Garage Meeting	\$118.10	
Happy Heathens	\$328.50		Then and Now	\$189.61	
Happy Hour			Thursday Men's Group	\$150.00	
Happy, Joyous & Free			Thursday Noon/WP	\$109.53	
High Noon	\$120.00		Traditions Only		
H.O.W.			Treating The Illness	\$54.00	\$54.00
Into Action	\$617.24	\$271.50	Turning Point	\$20.00	
Keystone to Recovery	\$100.00		Ute Pass Breakfast Group		
Lake George Group	\$240.00		Veterans for AA	\$75.00	
Limon AA	\$25.00		Walk the Talk	\$5,073.71	\$1,173.71
Little Log Church Group	\$34.00		Walking on Water	\$180.00	
Living Free	\$150.00		We Are Not Saints	\$1,606.55	\$219.87
Living Sober South	\$304.81	\$69.50	Westside Eye Opener		
M.A.G.	\$608.25		Women of Grace	\$320.00	
Meditation Group	\$300.00		Woodland Park Beginners		
Natural High			Woodland Park Book Study	\$351.50	
New Beginners	\$380.74		Woodland Park Women's Step Study		
New Woman	\$617.50		Young People	\$1,028.90	\$102.83
Northwesters	\$312.14	\$312.14	<b>Totals:</b>	<b>\$28,734.71</b>	<b>\$4,642.85</b>

# A.A. basics are in the Big Book

*Sponsor, from page 1*

drink. Our so-called will power becomes practically nonexistent. We are unable at certain times, to bring into our consciousness with sufficient force the memory of the suffering and humiliation of even a week or a month ago. We are without defense against the first drink.” (Big Book, p. 24.) I didn’t understand the power of that paragraph when she first read it to me that day in a booth at Village Inn, but I most definitely do now.

**2** My second sponsor, “B,” joined me on my journey shortly after D and I parted ways. I did my Third Step with her and vividly remember holding her hand and reciting the Third Step prayer together. B and I got along great and we came to a point where there was a fork in the road. She either had to remain my sponsor or we would be close friends. You see, there are boundaries I believe need to be established with the sponsor/sponsee relationship, and at that time we decided it was easier to be friends.

We’re still great friends and after a lull in her program and a lack of a sponsor since she moved out of town, she has even asked me to temporarily sponsor her. But again, friendship prevailed, and I encouraged her to find a woman who speaks her language at the meetings in her city.

**2**<sup>1/2</sup> Then, I went a long while doing something you’re not supposed to do: I sponsored myself. That foolish decision lasted around 18 months. Not something to be repeated. It is only by God’s grace that I stayed sober. A guy in one of my groups knew I was sponsor-less and also sitting on my Fourth Step.

He pointed out in the book where it directs us to launch out on a course of vigorous action. He told me that this step was a hurdle for many that put it off and encouraged me to find a temporary sponsor to hear my Fifth Step so I could move on. His wife was in the program and she graciously agreed to hear it. I am very grateful that Miss P. was willing to lend an ear.

**3** My third sponsor, M’s greatest contribution to my sobriety was the emphasis on choosing a God of my own understanding. I had grown up in a religion where I went through the motions but did not have a personal relationship with God. It took a long while for me to create the Higher Power that I was able to accept and have a relationship with. My sponsor exposed me to different ideas and had me make a list of things I did **NOT** want my God to be, and I was able to go from there. Today my God is ever evolving and only wants the best for me and you as well. Feel free to borrow him/her/it from me until you’re able to create one of your own. My God has got your back if you need it.

**4** J is my fourth and current sponsor, and I hope to have this relationship for quite a while. The many contributions she has made in my sobriety is the fact that the program of Alcoholics Anonymous resides in our basic text. The answer to ALL of my problems can be found there, not only my alcoholism. She always names off a page number to read in the Big Book or other conference-approved literature that relates directly to what’s going on in my life. And I, in turn, am spouting off page numbers for my sponsees to read. I often hear J’s voice and wisdom in my own words.

Through my work with newcomers, interactions with old-timers and those of you in between, the roots of the AA family tree are growing deeper, farther and stronger. Some lines end, some break off, but all can be traced back to the great tree trunk that was planted by our founders, Bill W. and Dr. Bob, all those years ago.

May the journey of working with others only strengthen your roots and those whom you touch.

— Chris W.

## I am lost without Him

*Step 11, from page 4*

Step 11 makes definite suggestions on prayer and meditation. I find myself more connected when I follow the suggestions as written! It suggests ways I can wake up and invite the Creator into my life, and how I can do my best to stay in contact with Him throughout the day. The incredibly useful “pause when agitated or doubtful” tool is

also shared and has saved many a situation! The evening reflection also is very helpful, especially for me to ask, “Was I thinking about me most of the time?”

I also love that Step 11 suggests we read other books. Sermon on the Mount, A New Pair of Glasses, The Four Agreements, and The Road Less Traveled have been very formative in my recovery. I pray

*See Step 11, page 11*

## 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](mailto:serviceoffice@coloradospringsaa.org)

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS

### **CORRECTIONS:**

9 a.m., 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month

Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 21<sup>st</sup> & Colorado Ave.

### **PUBLIC INFORMATION:**

2 p.m., 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month

Penrose Hospital, 2222 N. Nevada Ave.

Volunteer Coordinator Conference Room

### **C.P.C. (PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY):**

1 p.m., 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month

Sand Creek Library, 1821 S. Academy Blvd.

large study room

### **DISTRICT 7:**

7 p.m., 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month

First United Methodist Church

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

### **TREATMENT:**

5:30 p.m., 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month

Penrose Hospital, 2222 N. Nevada Ave.

Board Room

### **NIGHTWATCH:**

7 p.m., 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month

Sacred Heart Parish

21<sup>st</sup> and Pikes Peak Ave.

Room 10 / Following the New Beginners' meeting

**PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING \$1  
FOR EVERY YEAR OF SOBRIETY TO THE  
GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE or AREA  
SERVICE OFFICE TO SPREAD AA's HOPE**

For info., please visit [coloradospringsaa.org](http://coloradospringsaa.org)

## WHERE TO SEND CONTRIBUTIONS

### **~ AREA SERVICE OFFICE ~**

Payable to: Colorado Springs

Area Service Office

1353 South 8<sup>th</sup> 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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# AA's view on medical marijuana?

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## Round Robin, from 2

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general consensus was that everyone should get one vote in one group so not to "load the vote." After that, many opinions differed.

One member shared how he felt intergroup was sort of outside the general service structure and that he has always seen intergroup as more of a social aspect and district and higher as the business aspect of AA. Some shared personal experiences. Some shared stories of members who overstretched themselves, unable to give the energy and attention those positions required. Others shared that taking more than one service position would deny another the opportunity for service work. Some said they were frustrated that only few are willing to volunteer for important AA positions. One member asked that if it's difficult for groups to fill positions, just how involved do the groups want to be?

**W**hen should a newcomer do a set of steps?

The general opinion was that time-frames for step work are a case-by-case basis. "Ten years" was one of my favorite answers.

On a serious note, we had a wide range of people with long-term sobriety who took anywhere from less than a year to complete a full set of steps

to more than five years.

**H**ow do we sponsor long-term sobriety when all the promises are coming true?

Some said that it was more on the individual level. A member with long-term sobriety stated, "I wouldn't want to sponsor me at this point." Another said what helped them was simply to keep sponsoring and to keep acquiring new sponsees. Another mentioned using step work, and studying the traditions and concepts at different times throughout her sobriety.

**W**hat is AA members' take on medical marijuana?

This seemed to be divided to two general sides. One side generally felt that marijuana, medical or not, is a mind-altering substance; therefore, a user would not be sober and may be blocked from having the steps work. The other side generally felt that we are not doctors, and when it comes to medical marijuana, not recreational, it was an outside issue.

**H**ow about where religion and program meet? Sometimes you hear Jesus (and etc.) talk in meetings. How do we be open to others' conceptions of God but still be respectful of "A God of

your understanding"?

There was much discussion about when a meeting is too one-religion (not spirituality but actual religion) or too extremely anti- or prejudiced against a religion. Some talked about when it is just one person taking a share too far. As far as the group level, some talked about how groups are autonomous; others did not agree. Most seemed to agree that if an individual swayed too extremely on the topic, maybe a member of that group could privately pull that person aside and kindly talk to them.

I personally think a long-timer summed it up everyone's thoughts best: "There are so many religions out there that I don't even understand, but they still work for people, so there you go."

**W**hy do we set suggest doing service work?

Many quoted Concept 9. In a nutshell, it states sobriety time is generally a good way to reflect a member's responsibility that may be required of certain positions, such as treasurer or secretary. Some expressed bad experiences of newcomers stealing or not showing up. On the other hand, others stated service work was the tool that they or someone they knew gave the accountability needed to stay sober when new. Some newcomers have had troubles finding posi-

tions in their home groups due to sobriety requirements.

**D**o AA-specific Facebook groups violate the 11<sup>th</sup> Tradition?

Again, two sides surfaced. On one side, you have the issue of anonymity with not only social media sites, but with the internet as a whole and how groups on Facebook are structured. On the other hand, social media is another tool to reach out to newcomers (whether new to sobriety or to town) or for a newcomer to reach out to members in that group, making the group more inclusive.

**W**hat is the difference between sensational advertising vs. attraction rather than promotion?

This one boiled down to sensational advertising being more of expectation, whereas attraction rather than promotion was more a proof or leading by example through your actions.

**M**any groups suggest men sponsor men and women sponsor women. With the recent surge of gender non-conforming identities, how does AA as a whole carry out its primary purpose while

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See Round Robin, page 11

# **"OPEN" AA Meeting**

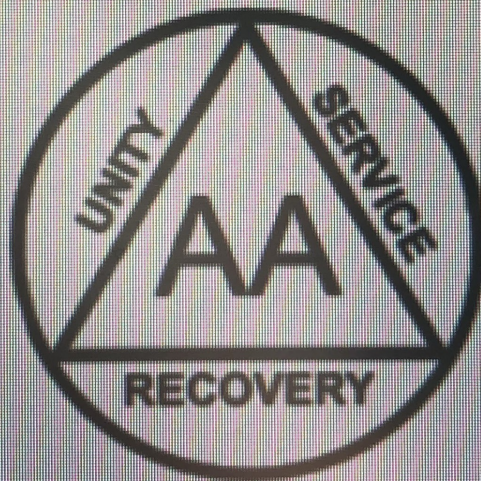
## **"The 11th Hour" Armistice Day**

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***Anonymity is the spiritual foundation  
of all our traditions, ever reminding us  
to place principles before personalities."***

**When: Every Monday at 1800**

**Where: *Chaplain Family Life Center*  
6282 Barkeley Ave bldg. # 1659  
(Corner of Barkeley & Prusaman)**



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*"What you hear here, or say here stays here."*

**Alcoholics Anonymous**

*"All are welcome, only requirement a desire to stop drinking"*

# Excellent workshop starts healthy dialogue

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*Round Robin, from page 1*

## taking this suggestion into account and being sensitive to the needs of LGBTQ members?

Some had very traditional views: No matter what, men should sponsor men and women should sponsor women, period. Others disagreed. There was talk about how the Big Book never makes this suggestion; in the beginning, AA's founding members did not have the large community we have today to be able to follow that suggestion. Some quoted Tradition 10 and said the gender issue was an outside issue.

The groups discussed how sexual energy can be a distraction and even detrimental when it comes to sponsoring. It was also discussed that when it comes to gender and the way women's and men's brains are differently wired that only the same gender could truly understand certain things. Some argued that a person's gender was what he or she felt on the inside. Others

disagreed. Most seemed to agree that it was more so what both the sponsor and sponsee felt comfortable with and that both were honest about how they felt. One member felt the most important thing when approaching a newcomer was to simply keep it basic, no matter what.

Overall, I truly thought this workshop started a healthy dialogue with a lot of questions that have caused some controversy between members. Hopefully, these questions lead to more constructive conversations in the Colorado Springs AA community. I know I will be discussing many of these questions with other AA members, sponsees, and, of course, my sponsor. If you have an opinion or experiences on any or all of these topics, please write them down and send them here, to the Pint.

I would be interested in knowing your point of view too.

— Molly

## My job is to do God's will

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*Step 11, from page 7*

for the Creator to keep me open-minded and teachable, and to help take me to better things. I have learned that many of God's kids have talents, gifts, and insights they're willing to share. It's my job to make myself ready to do God's will in my life, and these books are useful in helping me see what that looks like.

My family was out to dinner a few months ago. The conversation turned to one of us who wakes up at

5 a.m. every day to go to the gym. He was playfully asked if he's "excited" to wake up that early. He said though he wasn't greatly *excited* about waking up that early, he knows it's the right thing to do for his health and recovery.

We went around the table sharing our motivations for waking up. When it was my turn, without hesitation, I said, "I wake up to get connected to the Creator." My response startled me. But how true it is! After 33 years of "coming to" with the hideous four horsemen doggie-

piling me, life is better! Without a doubt, I know today that I am lost without Him.

I am eager to wake up and greet the One who has all Power each morning.

Though sometimes I tend to leave Him at home when I walk out the door to go on my way for the day, I can always access that Power when I ask to remember not to forget!

God Bless You!

— Bob G. "Coach"

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## This is what we call the JUMP page. Stories jump here from elsewhere

Stories jump when they start on one page and spill over to another page. If stories jump but don't land elsewhere in the document, the rest of the work floats away into the stratosphere, lonely words longing to be read and enjoyed, to be rejoined with their pals from the beginning of the story ... Also, if stories randomly **land** and we see the back half of a story without enjoying the first part, this is also quite frustrating ... that is, **IF** the story is worth reading ...

This is why the collective "we" have copyeditors. They read the entire document (while awake) and make corrections **BEFORE** it's published. Because if sloppy work makes it to print, quite possibly, **heads will roll** in the editor's office.

This story right here is called "filling white space."