



The Pikes Peak Pint is a monthly AA-oriented newsletter proudly serving Colorado Springs and its surrounding communities.



Pikes Peak Pint

November

2011

AREA MEETING CHANGES, DELETIONS, ADDITIONS

- **THE FIRST 164 PAGES** (open, handicap access) Big Book Study **MOVED** from 2508 E. P. Llatte Avenue to 308 S. 8th St. Suite I. Corner of 8th and Cimmaron. (Exit I-25 @ Cimmaron and go West)
- **THE PRE DAWN MEETING** (open, handicap access) Discussion that meets at 1769 S. 8th Street, Bldg. P, Clean Slate Meeting Place **CHANGED** times from 6:15 a.m. to 6:00 a.m and now **MEETS 7 DAYS A WEEK.**
- **SATURDAY NIGHT SPEAKER MEETING** (open) at the Red Cloud Serenity Club, 10400 Ute Pass Ave. Green Mountain Falls CO (across from pond) is **CHANGING** times from 6 to 7 p.m., potluck@ 6p.m. 3rd Sat. AA/Alanon combined, last Sat. is a birthday meeting.
- **WALK THE TALK GROUP** (open, handicap access) **BIG BOOK STEP STUDY**, is a **NEW MEETING** that gathers Sundays at 2 p.m. at Erindale Square Shopping Center, FREE Coffee!! 5975 N. Academy Blvd. #210.
- **THE FALCON GROUP** that meets Wednesdays at 12 p.m. is **CANCELLED.**



The Grapevine online, www.aagrapevine.org, started a new feature asking readers to suggest the caption for cartoons. What Caption would you suggest?

Some Serious Good

When I was first exposed to the Twelve Steps, I had completely rejected religion and the idea of God. I thought that most people who professed to be “of God” were close-minded, intolerant, and belligerent hypocrites.

When people in AA first suggested I pray for help, I quietly thought they were idiots. But I learned that I was the one being close-minded, intolerant, and belligerent. If there were such a thing as a loving, nurturing God who was interested in my well-being, I was not going to know him with my attitude. So, I adopted a different attitude. With great skepticism, I not only

began to pray for God to help me stay sober, I asked God to prove that he truly exists.

Now I believe God cares a great deal about suffering alcoholics and addicts. When I work to help another alcoholic or addict, God gets busy.

Continued on Page 8

LOCAL SERVICE OFFICE

Hours: T-F 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.,
SAT 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Location: 1353 South 8th Street, Suite 209
Colorado Springs, CO 80905
719-573-5020

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

Contact the Service Office for Intergroup Information or Chair phone numbers.

DISTRICT COMMITTEES

CORRECTIONS
Renee J.. - Chair
Stephen P. - Vice Chair
corrections@coloradospringsaa.org

PUBLIC INFORMATION
Beth G. - Chair
OPEN - Vice Chair
pi@coloradospringsaa.org

CPC
(COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY)
Larry S. - Chair
OPEN - Vice Chair
cpc@coloradospringsaa.org

TREATMENT
Mike H. - Chair
OPEN - Vice Chair
treatment@coloradospringsaa.org

LOCAL SERVICE COMMITTEES

PROGRAM
Betty A. and Jan I.. - Chair
OPEN - Vice Chair
programs@coloradospringsaa.org

PINT
Adrienne A. - Chair
Rod Q. - Vice Chair
pint@coloradospringsaa.org

VOLUNTEER
Adrienne C. - Chair
David U. - Vice Chair
programs@coloradospringsaa.org

NIGHTWATCH
Bob M. - Chair
OPEN - Vice Chair
nightwatch@coloradospringsaa.org

WEB SITE
Dana E.. - Chair
OPEN - Vice Chair
webmaster@coloradospringsaa.org

ARCHIVES
OPEN. - Chair
OPEN - Vice Chair
archives@coloradospringsaa.org

CONTRIBUTION ADDRESSES*

AREA SERVICE OFFICE
Make check or money order payable to:
Area Service Office
Include Group Name and Number on check.

Send to:
Colorado Springs Area Service Office (CSASO)
1353 South 8th Street, Suite 209
Colorado Springs, CO 80905

GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE
Make check or money order payable to: General Fund
Include Group Name and Number on check.

Send to:
General Service Office (GSO)
PO Box 459, Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10163

AREA 10
Make check or money order payable to: Area 10
Include Group Name, Number, and District #7 on check.

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

DISTRICT
Make check or money order payable to: District #7
Include Group Name, Number, and District # on check.

Send to:
District 7
P.O. Box 26252
Colorado Springs, CO 80936-6252

PINK CAN CONTRIBUTIONS
Make check or money order payable to:
Area 10 Corrections Committee
Include Group Name and Number on check.

Send to:
Pink Can Contribution
P.O. Box 1949
Carbondale, CO 81623

**Cash accepted in person only, please do not mail.*

Please e-mail sobriety anniversaries,
announcements, letters to the editor, and e-mail
subscription requests to the Pikes Peak Pint before the
20th of each month!
pint@coloradospringsaa.org

Your Area Service Office and Intergroup would like you to know how very much we appreciate your personal contributions!



In the month of September
we received
**7 Grateful Giver contributions &
1 Personal contributions!**

GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS - THANK YOU FOR ALL OF YOUR SUPPORT!!!

| GROUP NAME (2011-2012) | Yr. to date | September |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Above The Bar Group | \$0.00 | |
| Apex | \$235.00 | |
| At The Inn | \$0.00 | |
| Back to Basics | \$239.77 | \$62.00 |
| Beacon Light | \$0.00 | |
| Big Book Action | \$206.38 | |
| Big Book Study UPH | \$250.00 | |
| Black Forest | \$254.91 | |
| Breath of Life | \$0.00 | |
| Broadmoor | \$50.00 | |
| Brown Baggers | \$150.00 | \$150.00 |
| Celebrating Diversity | \$0.00 | |
| Central | \$5.00 | |
| Clean Air Group | \$0.00 | |
| Don't Worry Be Happy | \$106.80 | |
| Down By The Creek | \$45.00 | |
| Downtown Group | \$197.61 | \$197.61 |
| Drylander's Group | \$32.46 | |
| Easy Does It | \$225.00 | |
| Ellicott Group | \$100.00 | |
| Eye Opener | \$0.00 | |
| 1515 Meditation Group | \$75.23 | \$34.43 |
| 1st 164 Pages | \$0.00 | |
| 4th Dimension | \$0.00 | |
| Far North Group | \$0.00 | |
| Fountain of Sobriety | \$0.00 | |
| Foxhall Group | \$150.01 | |
| Freedom From Bondage | \$0.00 | |
| Friday Night Live | \$300.00 | \$150.00 |
| Friday Women's Group | \$0.00 | |
| Gals of Woodland Park | \$0.00 | |
| Garage Meeting | \$160.00 | |
| Gift of the Heart | \$0.00 | |
| Good Ole Boys | \$150.00 | |
| Happy Destiny | \$382.33 | \$87.93 |
| Happy Heathens | \$0.00 | |
| Happy, Joyous & Free | \$0.00 | |
| Half Pint Group | \$117.00 | |
| Happy Hour | \$86.50 | |
| Hilltop AA Meeting | \$0.00 | |
| High Noon | \$129.00 | \$18.00 |
| H.O.W. | \$94.69 | \$94.69 |
| Hugo Group | \$0.00 | |
| Into Action | \$270.00 | \$60.00 |
| Keep it Simple | \$0.00 | |
| Keystone to Recovery | \$200.00 | \$100.00 |
| Lake George Group | \$90.00 | \$90.00 |
| Last Chance | \$0.00 | |
| Little Log Group | \$0.00 | |

| | | |
|---|--------------------|-------------------|
| Living Free | \$208.06 | \$30.00 |
| Living Sober | \$150.00 | |
| M.A.G. | \$442.70 | \$141.00 |
| Motherlode | \$0.00 | |
| Natural High | \$0.00 | |
| New Beginners | \$195.13 | |
| New Woman | \$406.98 | \$100.00 |
| Northwesters | \$260.00 | |
| Not A Glum Lot | \$0.00 | |
| Oasis Group | \$217.61 | \$72.62 |
| Off The Wall | \$99.97 | |
| Old North End Study Group | \$131.50 | |
| Outright Mental Defectives | \$0.00 | |
| Pass It On | \$0.00 | |
| Passed The Bar | \$0.00 | |
| Pathfinders | \$0.00 | |
| Penrose Discussion | \$0.00 | |
| Plug in the Jug | \$200.00 | |
| Pre-Dawn Meeting | \$0.00 | |
| Progress Not Perfection | \$184.82 | |
| Recovery in Action | \$126.87 | |
| Rule #62 | \$0.00 | |
| Saturday Early Morning Mtg. | \$386.84 | |
| Security Eye Opener | \$0.00 | |
| Serenity Hour | \$125.00 | \$20.00 |
| Serenity Riders | \$299.14 | |
| Serenity Sisters | \$0.00 | |
| Silver Key Seniors | \$95.00 | \$20.00 |
| Solutions at Noon | \$209.76 | \$17.84 |
| Steel Magnolias | \$79.50 | |
| Stepping Stones | \$0.00 | |
| Sunday Morning Speaker | \$420.00 | |
| Sunday Night Big Book Study (Clean Slate) | \$40.00 | |
| Sunlight of the Spirit - Women's 12x12 | \$106.35 | |
| Taking Steps | \$400.00 | |
| The Doctor's Opinion | \$0.00 | |
| Then and Now | \$0.00 | |
| Thursday Mens | \$650.00 | |
| Thursday Noon--Woodland Park | \$50.00 | |
| Ute Pass Breakfast | \$0.00 | |
| Veterans for AA | \$200.00 | |
| Walk the Talk | \$1,140.00 | \$300.00 |
| Walking on Water | \$200.00 | \$100.00 |
| We Are Not Saints | \$438.60 | |
| Wed. Westside Womens | \$0.00 | |
| Westside Eye Opener | \$215.66 | |
| Womens Step Study-WP | \$0.00 | |
| Woodland Park Beginners | \$120.00 | \$60.00 |
| Woodland Park Book Study | \$150.00 | |
| Young People | \$680.00 | |
| Totals: | \$12,932.18 | \$1,906.12 |

Step 11 : Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God, as we understood Him, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out.

It is often wisely said in A.A. that we should not become over-anxious, should not expect to get the whole program overnight, but should take the steps one at a time when we feel that we are ready for them. This means that although we are not ready at a given time to take this step or that one and are, therefore, not then taking it, we should be disposing ourselves toward it. It never means that we should plan on avoiding any of the steps.

Practice of the 11th Step is the surest method of disposing oneself toward all the other steps. It was only through seeking contact with God through meditation and prayer that some of us came to believe in Him and became willing to turn our wills and our lives over to Him. The wish to improve that contact, the searching for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry it out, gives us strength to make amends, to do the things necessary to remake our lives. Unless we improve our contact with God we will gradually lose it. There will be a slow

return to indifference and we will suffer that let-down that so many experience after a few months in A.A. Gradually old desires return with increasingly great urgency. The alteration in conduct that we have made for a few months has not been sufficiently sustained to lead to a change in character, and the deeper habit patterns reassert themselves. Growth in spiritual understanding alone will dispose us to make the effort to recondition ourselves, to change our emotional attitudes and bring about a true character change.

For specific suggestions for practicing the 11th Step we turn to the book *Alcoholics Anonymous*, as we do on all A.A. questions, before going ahead on our own. Applying the wisdom we find there, we turn with newly awakened interest and intensity to the practices of our particular religious denomination, if we have one; we sometimes select and memorize a few set prayers; we may study the recorded thoughts of others; but in any event we make it a practice in the morning to ask God to guide us during the

day, and thank Him at the day's close for His many blessings. We are careful never to pray for our own selfish ends, but ask especially for freedom from self-will and knowledge of God's will for us.

Some of us have found the following verse helpful on awakening, when all our wishes and hopes for the day rush at us like wild animals; the first thing we must do is shove them all back, and listen to that other voice, letting a calmer, quieter, stronger life flow into us: "Every morning rest your arms awhile upon the window-sill of Heaven and gaze upon your Lord, and with that vision in your heart turn strong to meet your day."

All of which, of course, is calculated to keep us from taking that first drink. It works --it really does.

R. D.
Garden City, New York



Tradition 11: Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio and films.

Concept 11: The trustees should always have the best possible committees, corporate service directors, executives, staffs, and consultants. Composition, qualifications, induction procedures, and rights and duties will always be matters of serious concern.

STEP UP INTO SERVICE!

CPC/PI COMMITTEES WANT YOU!



Both committees are very busy and always have opportunities for service! Please go to either of their monthly meetings to get involved!

Cooperation with the Professional Community meets the first Saturday of every month at 1:30 p.m. at 7 E. Bijou. Public Information meets the 1st Saturday - 2 p.m. - Penrose Main, 2222 N. Nevada Ave., Volunteer Coordinator Conference Room

The following Service Positions are currently OPEN and NEED to be filled! Please contact the Service Office or come to the next Intergroup Meeting Tuesday November 9th to learn how you can become involved!

Co - DCM (District Committee Member)
Public Information Committee - Vice Chairperson

NIGHTWATCH has OPEN POSITIONS!!!

Contact Bob at nightwatch@coloradospringsaa.org

The TREATMENT COMMITTEE NEEDS volunteers!
Contact Michael at treatment@coloradospringsaa.org

To submit your group's sober birthdays to The Pint, please e-mail a list of names and the amount of years each person has to: PINT@COLORADO-SPRINGSAA.ORG.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

| Solutions @ Noon | |
|------------------|----------|
| Anne M. | 5 years |
| Annette B. | 14 years |
| Buck B. | 6 years |
| Dick N. | 13 years |
| Liz H. | 4 years |
| Dina S. | 2 years |
| Walk the Talk | |
| Alberto | 5 years |
| Elizabeth C. | 1 year |
| Eric P. | 12 years |
| Terry E. | 1 year |
| Karen N. | 27 years |
| Kristy | 1 year |
| Denise | 24 years |

| Ron C. | 25 years |
|-------------------|----------|
| Debbie C. | 19 years |
| Mary L. | 9 years |
| Stacy N. | 1 year |
| Konnee P. | 25 years |
| Joseph | 8 years |
| Sharon | 29 years |
| Gil | 6 years |
| David | 1 year |
| Gretchen | 35 years |
| Janet S. | 23 years |
| Chuck | 26 years |
| Tuesday New Woman | |
| Puddi K. | 28 years |
| Nancy R. | 31 years |

| Robin S. | 2 years |
|-----------------|----------|
| Nora M. | 3 years |
| Francine | 2 years |
| Taylor | 1 year |
| Steel Magnolias | |
| Anne M. | 5 years |
| Friday Women's | |
| Phyllis C. | 41 years |
| Nancy B. | 21 years |
| Gretchen | 35 years |
| Kathy H. | 3 years |
| Stacey | 1 year |
| Ellicott Group | |
| Ray S. | 31 years |

The PINT mistakenly omitted some October birthdays. We apologize for the error. Happy Birthday!

| Tuesday New Woman | |
|-------------------|----------|
| Mariellyn M | 39 years |
| Kathy F. | 34 years |
| Katrina | 5 years |
| Catherine G. | 4 years |

| Carlie K. | 3 years |
|----------------|----------|
| Jeri R. | 1 year |
| Friday Women's | |
| Amy C. | 24 years |
| Sherry M. | 13 years |

| Su S. | 7 years |
|-----------------|----------|
| Bryana C. | 5 years |
| Jenna B. | 2 years |
| Steel Magnolias | |
| Becky J. | 18 years |

AA AT A GLANCE ~ SEPTEMBER 2011

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------|--------|---|-----------|--|--------|---|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 CPC(Downtown) 1:30 p.m. PI (Penrose) 2 p.m. |
| 6 | 7 | 8 Intergroup Meeting 7pm First United Methodist | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 Treatment Committee 1 pm Penrose |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 Corrections 9 a.m. Sacred Heart |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 Submit Milestones & Letters to the Editor to The Pint | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | |

Gratitude Dinner

November 12, 2011 5 – 9 p.m. at GIUSEPPE’S DEPOT, 10 South Sierra Madre, Colorado Springs, CO 80903 in the Private Dining Room. Advance ticket purchase only (100 seats available) must be purchased by **Wed., Nov. 9**. Tickets are \$21 for an All Inclusive Dinner (includes pasta bar, entrée, veggie platter, garden salad w mixed greens, garlic bread, coffee, tea or soft drink, all taxes and gratuity included). For tickets, contact Boni S. (text) 719-623-9179 or Melinda 719-686-4914. Checks made payable to: Colorado Springs Area Service Office. Or by mail: Colorado Springs Area Service Office, 1353 S. 8th Street, Ste 209, Colorado Springs, CO 80905. Attention: Boni S.

Monthly Committee Meetings

The Board

1353 S. 8th St. - Suite 209
1st Monday - 6:30 p.m. - Service Office

Corrections

2021 W. Pikes Peak Ave. - Room 6
3rd Saturday - 9 a.m - Sacred Heart

CPC

7 East Bijou St. - Room 205
1st Saturday - 1:30 p.m. - Downtown Group

District 7

3rd Tuesday - 7:30 p.m. - First United Methodist Church,
420 N. Nevada - Room 135 (access Boulder St.)

Intergroup

2nd Tuesday - 7 p.m. - First United Methodist Church,
420 N. Nevada - Room 135 (access Boulder St.)

Public Information

1st Saturday - 2 p.m. - Penrose Main, 2222 N. Nevada
Ave., Volunteer Coordinator Conference Room

Treatment

2nd Saturday - 12 to 1 p.m. - Penrose Main, 2222 N.
Nevada

Meeting in Print

Continued From Page 1

He was drinking heavily and had a hard time working. During this time, I was working at a drug and alcohol treatment center. "It makes me sad that I help people every day in my work to recover from alcoholism," I said, "but I can't help my own father."

Soon after, my father and I had a conversation. He gave me a reason why he wasn't alcoholic, and I pointed out the flaw in his reasoning. He thought of another reason why he wasn't alcoholic, and I pointed out the flaw in that reasoning as well. This went on for the whole day. Then my father said, "I know from reading the Steps that people in recovery think their drinking is insane. When have I done anything you would call insane as a result of my drinking?" It was a loaded question. I had a few examples in mind but was almost certain he didn't remember any of them. I needed help. God, help me with this one, I said to myself.

"Did you ever drink in prison?" The question came out of my mouth before I thought it.

The look on my father's face was one of total astonishment. He paused for a very long time. He quietly asked me when the next AA meeting was. All of his defenses had vanished. He got sober that day and stayed sober for the rest of his life. Later, he told me that he drank in prison when he had so little time left to serve that a chorus of fellow inmates said he was insane for doing so. The consequences, had he been caught, could have been an additional year of prison, plus a transfer from minimum security to medium security. But he thought that a year of his life in a medium security federal prison was a fair trade for a drink. "Did you ever drink in prison?" was the perfect response to my father because the universe had already told him loud and clear that his drinking was insane. He just needed a reminder. I couldn't do that. I had no knowledge of the prison events, but God did. I believe he took advantage of the opportunity and spoke directly to my father through me.

This is the magic of recovery; when one alcoholic tries to help another, God is there, inspiring one with just the right words to do some serious good. That's why meetings can be so amazing. At times, I have sat in meetings and heard God speaking directly to me, answering my thoughts through the words of another person's sharing. Conscious contact with God is very important, but it is not all there is to recovery. I also must be willing to take action. With God's assistance, I look inward to learn about my defects of character. I look at my role in all the conflicts of my life. I have forever abandoned the idea that I am a victim. As a result, I have swallowed some painful truths about myself.

Relief comes when I stop relying on willpower and turn to my Higher Power for help. I pray for assistance and pledge to do my part and not feed a particular defect of character. When I do that, I can stay centered and healthy throughout the day. Unfortunately, I usually don't get there until that particular manifestation of my disease has thoroughly kicked my butt.

I have come to depend on God in several areas of my life, not because I want to be good, moral, and righteous, but because I simply don't, want to suffer any more than necessary. And I really don't want to die from alcoholism or drug addiction. If I don't continue to recover, I will succumb to this disease. It has killed several of my friends and relatives. My personal spiritual beliefs may allow me to see that death is not the horrible tragedy I once thought it was, but I am not ready to leave this life just yet. I have more stuff I want to do. So, I trudge along and follow our program, and when I do, I get better in spite of myself.

Chris K.
Oklahoma
Grapevine, September 2006
Vol. 63 No. 4

Last month's winning caption from Colorado Springs fellowship



"You wanna finish his drink, or shall I?"

~Rod Q. WTT