

# -THE PIKES PEAK PINT-



## DECEMBER

### TWENTY TWELVE

*A Newsletter for the Pikes Peak Region of Alcoholics Anonymous*

#### • LOCAL FEATURE •

### A Second Chance

The chill of the December evening harshly obvious-  
The smell of the freezing air was vacant and  
unwelcoming.

I drove up to the mortuary for the viewing with a  
cumbersome feeling encroaching upon my spirit.  
The anxiety of the moment warranted drugs and I  
caved as I threw a pain pill in my mouth and chocked  
it down with water.

As I emerged from my car, I was clueless to the event  
which was awaiting my arrival inside the doors.  
I slowly entered the dark building and saw Georgia's  
loved ones consoling their family and visitors.  
The line for final face-to-face good-byes invited me  
over with a haunting smile.

I greeted Bev with my condolences and took my place  
in line to pay my respects.

My heart stammered, palms were sweaty, as I waited  
reluctantly wondering how seeing this precious  
woman lying lifeless in a coffin would affect me.  
Once making my way to the front of the line there she  
lay as if to say "thank you for coming my Friend."  
I looked down upon her canvas, peacefully sleeping,  
her beauty still radiating despite her gaunt  
appearance.

And then it hit me that very moment with the fiercest  
of blows-"Kristen, what have you done with your life?  
What legacy will you leave behind when you meet  
your maker? Whose lives did you touch with undying  
kindness and selflessness?"

Continued on page 2



*What Caption would you suggest?  
Send your suggestions to [pint@coloradospringsaa.org](mailto:pint@coloradospringsaa.org)  
Last months cartoon on page 12*

#### Local Service Office

Hours: Tuesday-Friday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

SAT. - SUN. - MON.: CLOSED

Location: 1353 South 8th Street, Suite 209

Colorado Springs, CO 80905

719-573-5020

E-mail: [serviceoffice@coloradospringsaa.org](mailto:serviceoffice@coloradospringsaa.org)

Web site: [www.coloradospringsaa.org](http://www.coloradospringsaa.org)

Contact the Service Office for Intergroup Information.

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## A Second Chance

Continued from page 1

In that very moment I realized my fate- who I was- I was an empty shell, floating from experience to experience and just reacting, taking from life what I could.

Never once did I try to give, to change my fate, to take charge of the person I was- My life was a series of events and the end result was my addiction.

My addiction had take over my life and my soul- I was morally and spiritually bankrupt.

In one big swoop a power greater than myself captured my entire attention-I was no longer the center of my universe. Upon leaving the mortuary I kept revisiting the life-changing event that just occurred and tried to absorb it for all of its wisdom and insight.

My life would never be the same from this point forward- for I realized I had a problem and upon addressing that I had a problem, I needed to find a solution.

Christmas and New Years came and went as I continued to try to wash away my cares and fears with the soothing effect of my best friends, Alcohol and Pills. I had become a slave to my disease.

Day in and day out I worked, came home and drank, loaded up with pain pills, passed out and came to- and did it all over again the next day- Until January 10, 2009.

My mind knew I couldn't continue this self-torture- my behavior was killing me emotionally, spiritually and physically.

This day came- it was a Saturday.

The sequence of events that unfolded that day, I'm convinced where no coincidence.

I began my day with a hard workout at the gym (after recovering from my hangover from the night before), and then decided to meet a close friend for lunch. I couldn't pass up a tall beer while at lunch, and when my friend looked away, I snuck a few of my beloved and consumed them with the cold tasty alcohol.

That evening, I continued to titrate my blood with more poison and more pills. One's great but ten's even better right???

I was just enjoying the effects of course, no harm done here. I drunk-dialed my mom and dad and cried over some preposterous drama that really didn't deserve the attention I was so valiantly giving it.

As the golden hour approached, I winded down- And then everything went black.

I was out cold.

I can only piece together what happened from there. Sent a chilling goodbye text to my boyfriend and then turned my cell phone off- my only connection to the world. The rapacious creditor had me right where he wanted me- in his long, sharp, putrid talons.

By God's grace I woke up the next morning and by my

account I shouldn't have ever woken up.

1 bottle of wine, many glasses of vodka and Sunkist, a 6 pack of ale, along with the remainder of my Vicodin seemed to be a sure recipe for respiratory failure. Later on the next day, I realized I'd vomited after blacking out- and I'm convinced that's what saved my life.

The precious gift of a second chance had been given to me.

As the day progressed I realized the seriousness of my problem and needed to put the shovel down- in order to stop digging.

My God had reached down, pulled me up and tucked me under his wing and said, "Now that I have your attention Kristen, I can take it from here."

I felt a warmth, a spirit and sense of hope down to the depths of my being.

I was never alone- and I was always loved.

Self-worth suddenly burned with my heart because he kept me around- he wasn't done with me yet. And so now, almost four years later- I'm here to tell my story as a grateful survivor.

No longer does the demon possess me, but he doesn't

hesitate to gnash his teeth at me as he waits for me outside the door, doing push-ups, becoming stronger by the minute.

My disease wants to take every single thing I love, and then lastly, it will take my life- if I'm lucky.

But not if I can help it- Not today.

One day at a time, I will continue to share my experience, strength and hope.

I will live my life, love my life, and love myself as my Father loves me.

Kristen S.

Walk The Talk - Colorado Springs

**My mind knew I couldn't continue this self-torture- my behavior was killing me emotionally, spiritually and physically.**



*"Kinda hard to believe you 'n' me got a common problem."*

## How Generous Giving Has Changed Me

When I first came into A.A., I was surprised at the small sum that this way of life was going to cost. Only \$1 in the plate? Heck, I was spending hundreds of dollars a month at the bar! It was a daily occurrence for me to buy "my friends" a round on the barstools. As I quickly began assessing my character defects, I realized that selfishness and greed were at the top of the list. After a fourth step, I made it a point to always put more than \$1 in the basket. Usually, a \$5 - that would have bought me one of my favorites if I were still on the sauce.

By giving generously and consistently to the program that has saved my life, I have found a new freedom from the character defects that still threaten to kill me. This is a program of action and gratitude! I can never repay you folks for taking me in when I was at my lowest, but I can sure try by volunteering, sponsoring, and yes - even financial giving, so that our fellowship will be around for the next greedy and selfish alcoholic.

Adrienne M.

We Are Not Saints - Colorado Springs

## Honesty

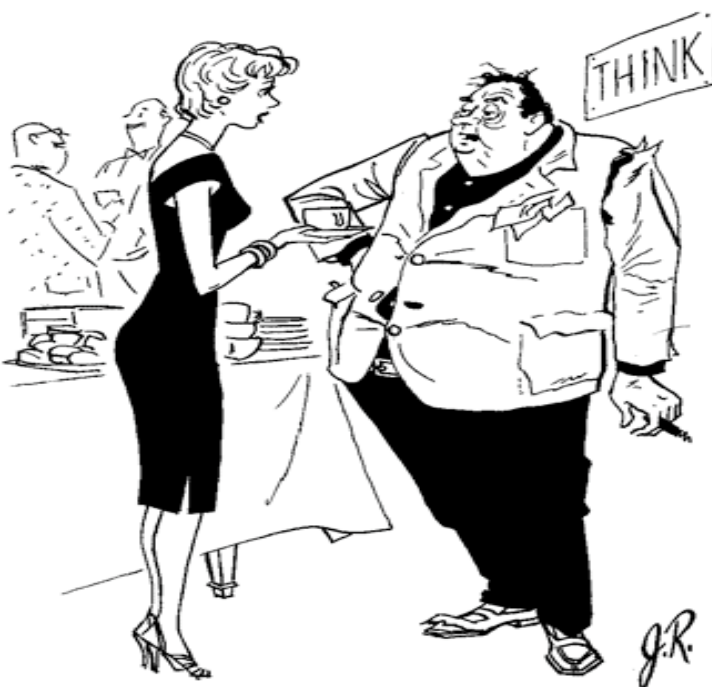
Honesty is the key to our freedom as sober alcoholics. At least that is what I have come to believe. I believe that sobriety starts with honesty, and lasts because of honesty. It starts with honesty because an alcoholic must "admit to their innermost self" that they are powerless over alcohol. That is part one of step one. As implied at the beginning of chapter 5, one must be capable of "grasping and developing a manner of living which demands rigorous honesty". Each step demands a little more honesty than the previous one. Step two asks us to admit that we are not powerful enough to conquer the alcohol problem alone, and so on. Here is an account of my struggle with honesty.

I bounced in and out of the program for at least eighteen months when I first walked through the doors of AA. At one point I had identified as a newcomer and I was going to meetings every day. I stayed clean and sober for two weeks, and then my disease told me that I could just smoke marijuana, and not drink. I continued going to meetings and raising my hand for thirty days, and even took a thirty day chip while I was smoking pot. I kept coming to meetings, pretending that everything was fine and I was still sober. It wasn't long until my disease told me that there wasn't much point in going to these silly meetings anyway.

I failed to see what was going to happen. I had told all of my drinking and using buddies, by which I mean all two of them, that I was sober and I wouldn't be seeing them anymore. I was afraid of what they would say if I called them back. The real reason I stopped going to meetings was that I was uncomfortable around people I was lying to. So there I was, stuck in no man's land. I didn't know who my friends were anymore. I even worried when I went back to my dope dealer because he would ask where I'd been and I'd have to lie. Imagine that - having to lie to your dope dealer! The alcoholic mind can be a strange thing.

Anyway, the point is that I felt alone. Really alone. Like it says at the beginning of chapter 11, "The chilling vapor that is loneliness settled down." Then on the next page "Then he will loneliness such as few do." Actually that whole first part of chapter 11 applied. So finally, I got tired of the lying, and tired of the embarrassment of having to raise my hand again and again. Even back then in the nineteen eighties, people welcomed you back without a second glance.

Continued on page 6



"I'm not a newcomer. This is my eighteenth first year."

## MEETING ADDITIONS - DELETIONS - CHANGES

Turning Point Group: **SWITCHED** the *Thursday 6:00 pm* Big Book Study to a *Newcomer Meeting* and the *Wednesday 6:00 pm* Newcomer Meeting to a *Big Book Study*.

Big Book Discussion Group: **MOVED** to 230 S. Main St., Fountain (in Library)

Central Group Candlelight Meeting: **DELETED** Friday and Saturday 11:00 pm.

Downtown Group: **NEW** 12 x 12 Study, Sunday 7:00 pm – 210 N. Corona (Behind McDonalds)

The Little Log Church: **NEW** - Open - Sunday 6:00 pm, Palmer Lake High and Upper Glenway.

The Little Log Church: **CHANGED** 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month is a speaker meeting.  
Palmer Lake High and Upper Glenway.

### Turning Point Saturday Speakers

Dec. 1st: Clint C. (Turning Point Group)  
 Dec. 8th: Lindsey (Don't Worry Be Happy)  
 Dec. 15th: AA- Al-Anon Combined  
 Dec. 22nd: Gary P. (everybody knows Gary P.)  
 Dec. 29th: Birthday Speakers



### INTERGROUP BOARD ANNOUNCEMENT

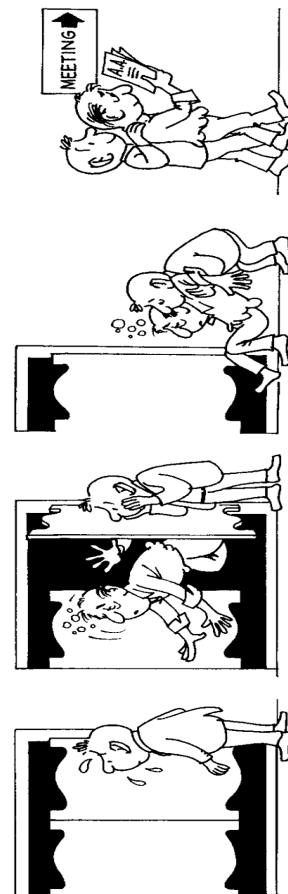
According to the Charter we need to have posted on the website and in the PINT, as soon as possible, that there is an interim vacancy for the position of Registrar on the Intergroup Board and that elections for this position will be at the Intergroup meeting on December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

### ~ DECEMBER BIRTHDAY MILESTONES ~

WALK THE TALK			TUESDAY NEW WOMEN'S			SOLUTIONS		
Susi L.	8	yrs.	Ashley C.	19	yrs.	Mark W.	4	yrs.
Michelle O.	17	yrs.	Nan P.	29	yrs.	Becky C.	3	yrs.
Lynn W.	7	yrs.	Eva H.	27	yrs.	Bob S.	2	yrs.
Kevin	3	yrs.	Carol H.	17	yrs.	John M.	1	yr.
Rod Q.	4	yrs.	Lee B.	3	yrs.	HAPPY HOUR		
Tara	2	yrs.	Lindsay A.	6	yrs.	Courtney B.	5	yrs.
Dennis S.	5	yrs.	Judy B.	22	yrs.	Nalene	4	yrs.
Richard S.	40	yrs.	FRIDAY WOMEN'S			Jason S.	3	yrs.
John P.	10	yrs.	Jeri H.	21	yrs.	Andres A.	3	yrs.
TURNING POINT GRP.			Larue G.	22	yrs.	John N.	29	yrs.
Clint C.	2	yrs.	Kathy H.	4	yrs.	Bruce F.	3	yrs.
Bill F.	11	yrs.	Linda F	4	yrs.	Deb	13	yrs.
Gary P.	35	yrs.	Mi-Lou	22	yrs.	Happy Hour -Nov		
STEEL MAGNOLIAS			JoAnn M.	37	yrs.	Paula W.	7	yrs.
Cora J.	10	yrs.	Karol P.	2	yrs.	Deanna	5	yrs.
Jeanne S.	21	yrs.						

**December**  
 \* Total Years      **583 yrs.**

\* Equals total years reported from our local groups.  
 To have your group years added please submit your milestones to [pint@coloradospringsaa.org](mailto:pint@coloradospringsaa.org)





Come to the  
Area Service  
Office

**You'll be glad you did!**

(if we told you why you wouldn't need to come)

Get the latest in AA approved  
reading for yourself or your group  
at everyday low prices!

Every individual purchase benefits  
the entire local fellowship!

**Be part of the solution!**

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

**Thank  
You!**

In the month of October  
we received  
7 Grateful Giver contributions &  
3 Personal contributions!

ALCOTHON 2012-13

~..~  
**"The Journey  
IS the Destination"**

~..~  
*24 Hour continuous meetings*

*AA & Al-Anon*

~..~  
• **Chili Cook Off** •  
**\$100.00 cash prize!**

~..~  
**Potluck Dinner**

WITH THE PAUL H. PLAYERS  
DINNER HOUR SKIT

- ~..~
- **AA & Al-Anon Speakers** •
  - **Sobriety Countdown** •
  - **Live Entertainment** •
  - **Full HOT Breakfast Buffet** •

~..~  
ENCLOSED HEATED SMOKERS TENT

~..~  
**Child Activity Room**

~..~  
**•• Volunteers Needed! ••**

~ Contact Mary Ann at 332-8455 ~

• *Actors for the Dinner Hour Skit* •

~ Contact Paul H. at 634-4517 ~

~..~  
Sacred Heart Parish  
21<sup>st</sup> & Pikes Peak Ave  
Noon Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> to Noon Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>

*If you don't want to have a good time, Don't come...*

## HONESTY

Continued from page 3

I didn't have much faith that AA could help me, or that sobriety would be any good. But I had to admit that what I'd been doing certainly didn't work. So I had a thought – a thought that some sponsors would tell you not to have – that I would stay sober for one year, 100 percent. No matter how bad the cravings got, no matter how mad people made me, no matter how depressed I got, no matter what I lost or gained, I would not drink, one day at a time no matter what. I would even go to meetings, get a sponsor, and work the steps to the best of my ability. And it got better.

That was the hardest year of my sobriety. I wanted to drink so many times it's a miracle I made it, but I did. Somewhere along the way in that first year, the desire to drink left me. It came back a few times, but I used the tools that the program provided, and I got through that first year. Then when I was about sixteen months sober I went to see an old buddy in another town. I knew that he still used pot, but I thought I would be fine. I wasn't fine. I got high. The next day, I went home. I thought about what I had done, and couldn't bear the thought of raising my hand again. So I didn't. I went back to the meetings I had been going to all along, and pretended nothing had happened. I didn't drink again, but the memory haunted me. It wouldn't go away. I had to come clean. I knew that if I didn't share it with my sponsor that I would end up drinking.

I knew that because I was rationalizing about it all of the time. And if I could rationalize my way into believing that it was okay that I had slipped and “got away with it”, then I could talk myself into thinking it was okay to have a drink and “get away with it.” But I had done the work, and my sponsor had taught me to *think it through*.

He meant that I should remember every time I drank with the intention of *having just one or two*, or every time I drank with the thought that *I could handle it this time*, or whatever. Then I should be honest with myself and realize that I would never stop with one or two, and it would get me in at least as much trouble as it always did, if not more. Nowadays, I see that it wouldn't just get me in trouble, but it would quite probably kill me. And nowadays, I actually like being alive – most of the time. My disease occasionally acts up a bit, but I have the tools and I know how to use them.

The serenity prayer is actually a very powerful tool. As I'm trodding along thinking everything is okay, and life does its thing and throws a wrench into the works, I occasionally handle it quite well. Most of the time, I get annoyed for a minute or two, and then remember about acceptance. I need the serenity to accept the things I can't change. I can get really unhappy when I'm not accepting things that I have absolutely no control over. Serenity is what you get when you work the steps, and continue to work them every day. Without serenity, I cannot stay sober. And without honesty, I can't work the steps. That's how it works for me.

By Mark D.

Doctors Opinion - Colorado Springs

**The Area Service Office**  
would like to send out a warm  
***Thank You***  
to  
**THE NEW WOMAN GROUP**  
~ and ~  
**STEEL MAGNOLIAS**  
For sending in a special contribution  
in memory of one of their long time  
members passing!



**Concept 12:** The Conference shall observe the spirit of the A.A. tradition, taking care that it never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power; that sufficient operating funds and reserve be its prudent financial principle; that it place none of its members in a position of unqualified authority over others; that it reach all important decisions by discussion, vote, and, whenever possible, by substantial unanimity; that its actions never be personally punitive nor an incitement to public controversy; that it never perform acts of government, and that, like the Society it serves, it will always remain democratic in thought and action.

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## Step 12:

Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics and to practice these principles in all our affairs.

---

## Tradition 12:

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

---

### TRADITIONS CHECKLIST Tradition Twelve

- 1) Why is it a good idea for me to place the common welfare of all AA members before individual welfare? What would happen to me if AA as a whole disappeared?
- 2) When I do not trust AA's current servants, who do I wish had the authority to straighten them out?
- 3) In my opinions of and remarks about other AAs, am I implying membership requirements other than a desire to stay sober?
- 4) Do I ever try to get a certain AA group to conform to my standards, not its own?
- 5) Have I a personal responsibility in helping an AA group fulfill its primary purpose? What is my part?
- 6) Does my personal behavior reflect the Sixth Tradition – or belie it?
- 7) Do I do all I can to support AA financially? When is the last time I anonymously gave away a Grapevine subscription?
- 8) Do I complain about certain AAs' behavior – especially if they are paid to work for AA? Who made me so smart?
- 9) Do I fulfill all AA responsibilities in such a way as to please privately even my own conscience? Really?
- 10) Do my utterances always reflect the Tenth Tradition, or do I give AA critics real ammunition?
- 11) Should I keep my AA membership a secret, or reveal it in private conversation when that may help another alcoholic (and therefore me)? Is my brand of AA so attractive that other drunks want it?
- 12) What is the real importance of me among more than a million AAs?

## • Walk The Talk •

Invites you to join us in an

# OPENHOUSE CELEBRATION POTLUCK TACO-BAR DINNER PARTY Meeting, Thing...

WHEN: Saturday, December 15<sup>th</sup>  
Beginning at 5:00 pm  
Meeting at 6:00 pm

WHERE: 5635 N. Academy Blvd.  
Across from Woodley's Fine Furniture

*Open to one, open to all!*

Mark your calendar and bring a friend to  
enjoy some fun, food and fellowship!

**BE THERE!**

## Honesty, Tolerance, Forgiveness, Trust and Selflessness.

Six months ago I walked into my first AA meeting. I was unsure of AA and the program, even unsure if I "really was an alcoholic". I was bitter, angry, jealous, manipulative, controlling and pushy. I have worked all Twelve Steps. I have stumbled, I have been confused, scared and even at points felt I was going crazy. What Step Twelve did for me was take all of my hard work and summed it up. I have been blessed with a spiritual awakening. I now understand the words in the first sentence which I was incapable of before. Before AA I had no clue how to trust someone let alone truly forgive another person. I had asked myself many times how does one trust someone else, what about getting hurt. Forgiveness was even harder and despite many times of forgiving people I found myself having not forgiven them at all. I now have the ability to trust others without any fear or concerns of being hurt. In trust I am able to be fully present for another. Forgiveness came without my conscious knowledge of it; I didn't even realize I had been forgiving people for sometime. That is the beautiful change AA gives us. It is the solution we alcoholics search for. To be the sober person we know we can be but we don't know how to be. I have found strength and love in my Higher Power. I have the ability to love, comfort and understand my fellow AA's and now look forward to giving this way of life, this solution, away to the next alcoholic that finds themselves as I did at their first meeting searching.

With Love,  
Simplietob  
Young Peoples Group – Colorado Springs

## Solutions

@ Noon Group

## Christmas Party

WHEN: Wednesday December 19<sup>th</sup>  
Potluck begins at 11:30 am

SPEAKER: John O. at 12:00 noon

WHERE: 502 N. Walnut St.  
Westside 1<sup>st</sup> Wesleyan Church  
In basement, enter in the back from parking lot.

For more information contact:

Maureen @ 502-5404

Jamie @ 382-0972



"Okay! I just finished my ninety meetings in ninety days!  
When will you people tell me how this thing works?"

We must be entirely honest with somebody if  
we expect to live long or happily in this world.

BB Pg. 73/74





• CONTRIBUTION ADDRESSES •

~ AREA SERVICE OFFICE ~

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 ~

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 ~

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: 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday, 2:00 p.m., 1<sup>st</sup> floor Penrose Main Hospital, 2222 N. Nevada in Volunteer Coordinator Conference Room.

Cooperation with the Professional Community:

Committee Meeting: 5:30 p.m., 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month at the Downtown Group, 210 N. Corona St.

Corrections:

Committee Meeting: 9:00 am-10:00 am, 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month, Sacred Heart Catholic Church 2021 West Pikes Peak Ave, Room #6, Colorado Springs, CO 80904

District 7:

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

Treatment:

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

The Pikes Peak Pint:

Committee Meeting: 6:30 pm, 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month at (a place to be determined)

Nightwatch:

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

**For more committee information including intergroup committees please go to [coloradospringsaa.org](http://coloradospringsaa.org)**

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The Pikes Peak Pint by email!

• Then send a copy to all your friends •

Send subscription requests to  
[pint@coloradospringsaa.org](mailto:pint@coloradospringsaa.org)

**DO IT TODAY!**

# GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS

GROUP NAME (2012-2013)	Fiscal Yr. to date	October	GROUP NAME (2012-2013)	Fiscal Yr. to date	October
Apex	\$281.99	\$68.10	Noon Meetings @ Clean Slate	\$0.00	
Back to Basics	\$373.31		Northwesters	\$400.00	\$200.00
Big Book Action	\$200.00		Not A Glum Lot	\$0.00	
Big Book Study UPH	\$250.00		Oasis Group	\$50.00	
Black Forest	\$311.65	\$153.10	Off The Wall	\$166.89	
Broadmoor	\$0.00		Old North End Study Group	\$165.50	
Brown Baggers	\$150.00		Penrose Discussion	\$89.80	\$70.00
Central	\$0.00		Plug in the Jug	\$0.00	
Clean Air Group	\$0.00		Pre-Dawn Meeting	\$140.00	
Don't Worry Be Happy	\$121.60		Primary Purpose Men's Group	\$133.00	
Downtown Group	\$1,402.07	\$24.51	Progress Not Perfection	\$248.07	\$40.14
Drylander's Group	\$34.65		Recovery in Action	\$94.40	
Easy Does It	\$225.00		Saturday Early Morning Mtg.	\$196.00	
Ellicott Group	\$116.50		Security Eye Opener	\$0.00	
1515 Meditation Group	\$25.00		Serenity Hour	\$200.00	\$50.00
Foxhall Group	\$178.56	\$37.52	Serenity Riders	\$149.20	
Friday Night Live	\$200.00		Serenity Sisters	\$126.00	
Friday Women's Group	\$300.00		Solutions at Noon	\$225.42	\$49.92
Garage Meeting	\$325.00		Steel Magnolias	\$243.23	\$76.00
Good Ole Boys	\$250.00		Sunday Morning Speaker	\$584.55	
Half Pint Group	\$120.00		Sunday Night Big Book Study (Clean Slate)	\$0.00	
Happy Destiny	\$88.00		Sunlight of the Spirit - Women's 12x12 (Monument)	\$156.94	
Happy, Joyous & Free	\$0.00		Taking Steps	\$200.00	
Happy Heathens	\$275.00	\$112.00	Then and Now	\$100.00	
Happy Hour	\$570.05		Thursday Mens	\$850.00	\$50.00
High Noon	\$192.50	\$81.00	Thursday Noon--Woodland Park	\$100.00	
H.O.W.	\$35.10		Ute Pass Breakfast Group	\$60.00	
Into Action	\$336.00		12@12 Group	\$0.00	
Keystone to Recovery	\$0.00		Veterans for AA	\$0.00	
Lake George Group	\$188.39	\$110.21	Walk the Talk	\$2,040.00	
Living Free	\$81.00		Walking on Water	\$200.00	
Living Sober	\$138.00		We Are Not Saints	\$1,553.25	
Living Sober South	\$156.54	\$27.00	Wed. Westside Womens	\$167.50	
M.A.G.	\$176.02		Westside Eye Opener	\$110.59	
Natural High	\$0.00		Woodland Park Beginners	\$50.00	
New Beginners	\$361.00	\$69.00	Woodland Park Book Study	\$150.00	
New Woman	\$609.82	\$270.38	Young People	\$538.00	
Totals:				\$17,561.09	\$1,488.88

*We will suddenly realize that God is doing for us what we could not do for ourselves.*



## Nightwatch Night Owls News



**Happy Holidays:** I am Gina, and I am an alcoholic. It amazes me how easily these words pass through my lips now. Since my early teens, I was a weekend drinker, almost always ending in an unknowing blackout. I had my bouts with other addictions as well through the years but alcohol seemed to always be the constant battle. I was a stay at home mom and a wife and had never truly found the help I needed for my problems, so I just tried to control my alcoholism and additions with my own self will. Towards what was to be the end of my marriage, I once again changed addictions. My answer to quit drinking was to start using methamphetamines, so I did. I lost my son, my husband, my home, and my family. I was completely heartbroken and I continued to use for the next few years to numb the pain of my existence. In the final months of my using, I found myself on probation for drug charges and my boyfriend, of four years, went on the run from the police. My probation officer required me to begin intensive outpatient drug classes and counseling. Meanwhile, part of my sentencing was to also complete six A.A. classes at the court house. The first A.A. class I attended was to be the defining moment of my sobriety. In that class, in that moment, I learned that I was, in fact, an alcoholic and had never really quit, I had only switched up addictions. I returned the next week clean and sober, ready and willing to go to any length to stay that way. I even attempted suicide and obviously failed, because I just wanted the pain to subside and didn't want to use or drink. Three weeks later, right after my three month sobriety mark, my boyfriend hung himself in jail. He had been caught by the police in Nevada, was facing 96 years in prison, and was coming down from meth and heroin. He succeeded where I failed, I succeeded where he failed. I am alive today partly because he died. I honor his memory each and every day by staying clean and sober. I have remained that way one day at a time for 976 days and counting. I completed all my drug classes, found an awesome sponsor, worked the twelve steps of Alcoholics Anonymous, and was released from probation six months early. I stay involved with the A.A. program by going to meetings and doing service work. I am currently the chair of the Nightwatch Service Committee and loving every minute of it. I am eternally grateful for the program of Alcoholics Anonymous and my Higher Power because I

have my son back and a better life than ever before. My heart is whole for the first time and I am able to give back to others what was so freely given to me.

**Calling All Night Owls! Hoot! Hoot!** If you are interested in becoming a Night Owl and want more information, call Gina S. at 719-502-1154 or email me at [nightwatch@coloradospringsaa.org](mailto:nightwatch@coloradospringsaa.org). We do ask that you have six months of continuous sobriety and be prepared to commit to one year of service. Our next Nightwatch Service Committee meeting is on December 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm at Sacred Heart School, Room 10, located on the corner of 21<sup>st</sup> Street and Pikes Peak Avenue. Please, join us for snacks and fun as we share ideas and do some great Night Owl training exercises.

**Night Owl Words of Wisdom:** *If we are painstaking about this phase of our development, we will be amazed before we are half way through. We are going to know a new freedom and a new happiness. We will not regret the past nor wish to shut the door on it. We will comprehend the word serenity and we will know peace. No matter how far down the scale we have gone, we will see how our experience can benefit others. That feeling of uselessness and self-pity will disappear. We will lose interest in selfish things and gain interest in our fellows. Self-seeking will slip away. Our whole attitude and outlook upon life will change. Fear of people and of economic insecurity will leave us. We will intuitively know how to handle situations which used to baffle us. We will suddenly realize that God is doing for us what we could not do for ourselves.*

*Are these extravagant promises? We think not. They are being fulfilled among us---sometimes quickly, sometimes slowly. They will always materialize if we work for them.*

**From the A.A. Big Book pages 83-84 "ThePromises"**

Happily in Service,  
Gina  
Colorado Springs

*Live  
and Let  
Live..*

There are 20 words in this puzzle and they are forward, backward, diagonal and some even intersect with others.  
 (This months RTL is 20 mins.)  
 How long will it take you?

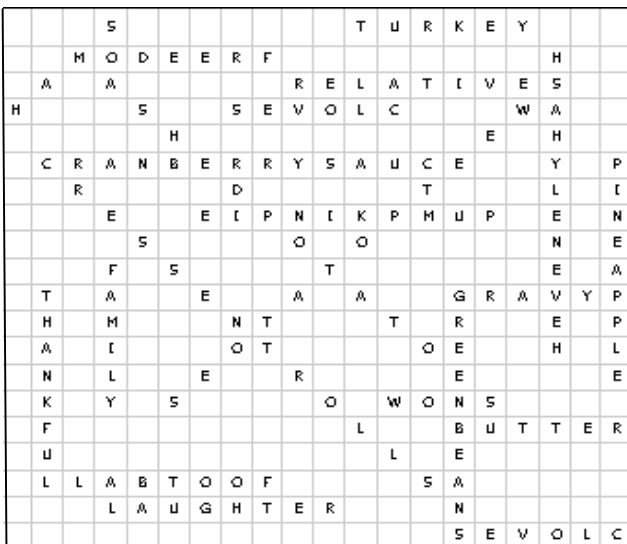
## • HOLIDAY WORD SEARCH •

- CHRISTMAS TREE
- GRINCH
- SANTA
- STOCKINGS
- HIGHERPOWER
- SUGARPLUMS
- CHEER
- RUDOLF
- BOWS
- FRUITCAKE
- HOPE
- CANDYCANE
- ELF
- CHIMNEY
- PEACE
- MISTLETOE
- LIGHTS
- ALCOTHON
- SOBRIETY
- LOVE

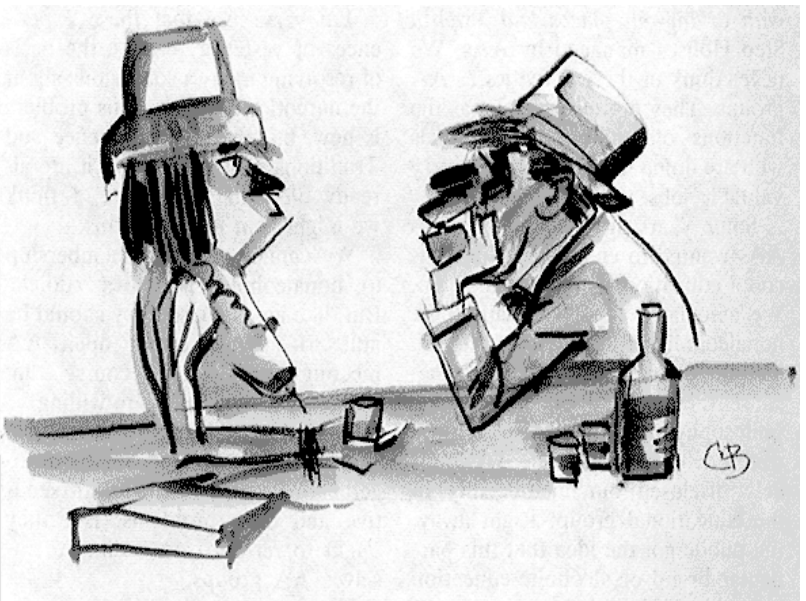


IF "GH" STANDS FOR "p," as you will find from the last letters of "hiccough"; "ough" for "o," as in "dough"; "phth" stands for "t" as in "phthistic"; "eigh" stands for "a," as in "neighbor"; "tte" stands for "t," as in "gazette"; and "eau" stands for "o," as in "beau"; then, "Ghoughphtheightteeau" spells potato.

### • Thanksgiving Word Search • November Solution



## Last Months Caption



*"You've been coming here for the past 3 years of my drinking!  
 If you're still not real I may have to try that AA thing!"*  
 ~ Submitted by Marc R. - Colorado Springs ~

EDITORS NOTE: Last months caption seemed to fit this months cartoon nicely so I left it. Thanks Marc!