



~THE PIKES PEAK PINT~

7-Years Sober and Starting Over

When I first surrendered to A.A., I believed that my life was unmanageable because of my drinking. I couldn't wait until my life became manageable again. After seven-years sober, I had many of the things that I considered to be hallmarks of manageability: I had a good job, owned a home, had a wife and two beautiful children, I even had money in the bank.

I was miserable. I was depressed and suicidal. It didn't make any sense to me. Every day, I felt like a catastrophe was about to happen at any moment even though there was nothing actually wrong. My life was intolerable even when I had everything I had thought would make me happy. Most of the manifestations of unmanageability listed on page fifty-two still applied to me...“trouble with relationships,” “feeling useless,” etc.

When I finally got honest with myself about my situation, I realized that I had been covering up my pain because I was ashamed that I had not conquered alcoholism yet. I decided that I may have missed something fundamental about A.A. so I returned to the three indispensables: Honesty, Open-mindedness, and Willingness.

Instead of planning what I was going to say in meetings to impress everyone and save them from their stupidity, I started to listen. Instead of reading two paragraphs when it was my turn to read, I began reading one paragraph like everyone else. Each meeting was an exercise for me to remember what everyone had shared after the meeting was over (even when I thought they were full of B.S.)

After awhile, I realized that I had not done a thorough job on steps four through eleven. I had basically done the easy parts and skipped to step twelve. Truth was that I wasn't very good at carrying the message because my message was all about how superior I was to everyone else.

I went back and humbled myself to really take ALL of the steps, withholding nothing.

Two-years later, while I was walking into the Saturday DTG meeting, I realized that it was my ninth A.A. birthday and that I had forgotten; that I really knew the people there and they really knew me; that they were happy to see me. I also realized that I hadn't thought about killing myself for over a year. A.A. really “works, if we have the proper attitude and work at it.”

ANONYMOUS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

FRIDAY WOMEN'S:

Nicole R.	05/24/08
Annikki H.	05/25/89
Michele	05/18/16
Candace	05/10/14

EASY DOES IT:

Tricia D.	05/01/09
Lisa C.	05/04/02
John W.	05/09/11
Diane A.	05/14/15
Chad V.	05/22/03
Elizabeth S.	05/25/10
Chris S.	05/27/79
Michael B.	05/29/13
Leslie C.	05/21/16

HAPPY HEATHENS:

Nadine C	7 Years
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WE ARE NOT SAINTS:

Channing L.	1 Year
Elizabeth T.	30 Years
Fernando R.	20 Years
Kellie J.	1 Year

DOWNTOWN GROUP:

Dave R.	05/01/12
Kenneth A.	05/03/13
Marty K.	05/03/93
Robert W.	05/04/07
Benjamin	05/04/14
Harold Y.	05/05/12
Christina R.	05/05/13
Jessy R.	05/06/13
Monique G.	05/09/13
Donald S.	05/09/12
Brian H.	05/10/10
Brandi S.	05/15/15
Dale C.	05/16/12
Missy	05/20/14
Julie O.	05/25/89
Tully D.	05/26/05
Dan C.	05/29/12
Tom D.	05/29/12
Jeremy H.	05/31/11

SERENITY RIDERS:

Andrea N.	05/02/10
Dan J.	05/10/10
Jeff B.	05/17/07
Laura I.	05/30/14
Leah R.	05/14/76
Michael H.	05/22/10

TURNING POINT:

Andrew R.	3 Years
Kevin H.	5 Years
Stephan P.	29 Years

STEEL MAGNOLIAS:

Rhonda J.	1 Year
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NEW WOMAN:

Kathy B.	10 Years
Michelle G.	4 Years
Peggy C.	3 Years
Laurie G	3 Years
Mary D.	23 Years
Marykatherine	35 Years

STEP 5:

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

5

CONCEPT 5:

Throughout our world services structure, a traditional "Right of Appeal" ought to prevail, thus assuring us that minority opinion will be heard and that petitions for the redress of personal grievances will be carefully considered.

TRADITION 5:

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

TRADITION 5 CHECKLIST:

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

A Ride to the Airport

Dick and I were friends for over ten years. He was my very first paying, massage therapy client. We became fast friends despite our 30-year age difference. Our conversations included his horses, kids, grandchildren and his wife.

I have three bottles of hot sauce in my cupboard because Dick loved to support small business and did everything he could to support them—thus the sauce. He would buy cases at a time to share with clients, family, friends and co-workers. He was a real people person, always laughing, entertaining and caring for others.

Sometimes, I would smell alcohol on his breath as early as 10am. I never saw him falling-down-drunk but he was definitely buzzed a few times. It was usually by 10:00 am in the morning.

One day, I got up my courage to ask him about it. He neither admitted nor denied his problem. He danced around it carefully, so as not to give up his obvious “secret.” It was really none of my business but I was very worried.

When the time finally felt right, I confided in him that I used to drink too much. I shared one example after another about my “adventures” with alcohol. He seemed relieved to hear my stories and admitted that he could relate and that he was pretty sure he was an alcoholic too.

Not long after our conversation he wrapped his F-150 around a tree due to his impairment from alcohol. At the emergency room, he told me that he had blown a 4.2 alcohol level. He was arrested for DUI.

The court showed him no mercy. As a matter of fact, they set out to make an example out of him. His sentence included weekly UA’s, an ankle monitor, loss of his license for a year, and the maximum allowable fine. Dick was ordered to alcohol counseling with other DUI offenders, private counseling, and “Judge-Nudged” AA meetings where he had to get an attendance record signed.

Despite these punishments, he would sneak drinks, drive his new truck, and giggle over getting away with his transgressions. In spite of his ornery attitude, I could tell that he was really hurting inside. The sparkle in his bright blue eyes and the skip in his step were beginning to fade.

He continued to go down to Texas and visit his children and grandchildren. He would share warm stories and tons of photographs when he returned home. He still had his family to live for.

A series of setbacks followed. He fell and hit his head while getting into his new truck. He suffered a concussion and laid there for hours before his son found him. After a month of inpatient physical therapy, he was back at home where he had another fall, injuring his hip and knocking out a tooth (he claimed that he tripped on the carpet.) He went back to physical rehab, where his family intervened due to his alcoholism.

His family decided that he could no longer live independently because he was a danger to himself and to others. On the day that decision was made, he made jokes and sounded chipper on the phone. He made light of his grand tour of the assisted living facility.

Dick died a year ago; he shot himself. Just before that, he had called to ask for help with some housekeeping chore. He called back later and with a very slurred and raspy voice told me he didn’t feel well and we would do the chores another day. That was the last time I ever spoke with him.

Dick’s youngest son, Dick Jr., called me two days later and said, “It’s about my Dad...He’s dead...He shot himself this morning.” In a very matter-of-fact way, Dick Jr. explained that a note in his father’s Day-Timer said, “Leslie – Airport.” Dick Jr. had called to tell me that I would need to find someone else to take me to the airport.

I still have those three bottles of hot sauce in my cupboard—there are no expiration dates.

LESLIE

GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS

GROUP NAME (2016-2017)	YTD	MARCH	GROUP NAME (2016-2017)	YTD	MARCH
A Common Solution	\$142.73	\$0.00	Northwesters	\$754.11	\$0.00
Above the Bar Group	\$0.00	\$0.00	Off The Wall	\$225.90	\$123.23
Apex	\$535.50	\$0.00	Old North End Study Group	\$331.23	\$0.00
Back to Basics	\$1,227.96	\$77.67	164 Group	\$130.00	\$0.00
Beacon Light Group	\$100.00	\$0.00	Pre-Dawn Meeting	\$308.00	\$150.00
Big Book Action	\$1,039.82	\$0.00	Primary Purpose	\$100.00	\$0.00
Big Book Study UPH	\$539.00	\$0.00	Progress Not Perfection	\$132.65	\$0.00
Black Forest	\$773.49	\$0.00	Recovery in Action	\$902.53	\$221.00
Broadmoor	\$73.10	\$0.00	Recovery, Unity, Service Group	\$140.00	\$0.00
Brown Baggers	\$225.00	\$225.00	Saturday Early Morning Mtg.	\$685.20	\$0.00
Central	\$60.10	\$10.00	Saturday Morning Anonymous	\$180.00	\$0.00
Clean Air Group	\$127.60	\$0.00	Security Eye Opener	\$453.50	\$0.00
Don't Worry Be Happy	\$795.66	\$91.80	Serenity Hour	\$725.00	\$75.00
Down By The Creek	\$38.00	\$0.00	Serenity Riders	\$447.34	\$243.54
Downtown Group	\$4,075.64	\$1,116.91	Serenity Sisters	\$200.26	\$0.00
Drylander's Group	\$23.25	\$0.00	Sober Sisters	\$118.08	\$0.00
Easy Does It	\$1,424.43	\$1,119.85	Solutions at Noon	\$0.00	\$0.00
Ellicott Group	\$340.00	\$0.00	Sought Through Prayer & Meditation	\$336.15	\$69.75
4th Dimension Rocketeers	\$50.00	\$0.00	Steel Magnolias	\$342.22	\$0.00
Foxhall Group	\$499.87	\$0.00	Stepping Stones	\$0.00	\$0.00
Friday Night Live	\$107.50	\$0.00	Sunday Morning Speaker	\$1,719.00	\$124.00
Friday Women's Group	\$501.00	\$0.00	Sunlight of the Spirit -(Monument)	\$700.00	\$0.00
Good Ole Boys	\$200.00	\$0.00	Taking Steps	\$496.62	\$0.00
Happy Destiny	\$221.33	\$0.00	The Doctor's Opinion	\$100.00	\$0.00
Happy Heathens	\$615.00	\$365.00	The Garage Meeting	\$303.80	\$7.00
Happy Hour	\$0.00	\$0.00	Then and Now	\$110.00	\$0.00
Happy, Joyous & Free	\$0.00	\$0.00	Thursday Men's Group	\$545.71	\$0.00
High Noon	\$140.00	\$0.00	Thursday Noon--Woodland Park	\$159.00	\$0.00
H.O.W.	\$300.00	\$0.00	Traditions Only	\$92.00	\$0.00
Into Action	\$600.00	\$0.00	Treating The Illness	\$211.46	\$0.00
Keystone to Recovery	\$100.00	\$0.00	Turning Point	\$163.29	\$0.00
Lake George Group	\$0.00	\$0.00	Ute Pass Breakfast Group	\$0.00	\$0.00
Limon AA	\$25.00	\$0.00	Veterans for AA	\$50.00	\$25.00
Little Log Church Group	\$559.00	\$119.00	Walk the Talk	\$3,450.00	\$0.00
Living Free	\$57.00	\$0.00	Walking on Water	\$120.00	\$0.00
Living Sober South	\$445.87	\$94.15	We Are Not Saints	\$2,635.78	\$0.00
M.A.G.	\$812.51	\$0.00	Westside Eye Opener	\$0.00	\$0.00
Meditation Group	\$234.00	\$0.00	Women of Grace	\$320.75	\$0.00
Natural High	\$32.00	\$0.00	Woodland Park Beginners	\$80.00	\$0.00
New Beginners	\$712.11	\$0.00	Woodland Park Book Study	\$265.33	\$0.00
New Woman	\$750.72	\$0.00	Woodland Park Women's	\$84.00	\$0.00
			Young People	\$800.21	\$0.00
			Totals:	\$37,423.31	\$4,257.90



MEETING CHANGES:

12 Steps From the Morgue

(Open, Discussion)

7pm, Monday

69 CO Rd. 5

Divide, CO 80814

**(Was "Above the Bar Group")
Name change only.**

Keystone to Recovery

(Closed, Big Book)

7pm, Tuesday

3685 New Center Point, 80922

Moved from 7:30pm to 7:00pm

Primary Purpose

(Open, Handicap Access)

Big Book discussion

3rd Saturday is a Tradition

6:00pm, Saturday

3958 N. Academy Blvd., Suite. 103, 80917

Inside "Be More" Event Center.

Located behind the Jade Dragon Restaurant.

No longer a speaker meeting.

**Colorado Conference of Young
People in Alcoholics Anonymous
(CCYPAA)**

May 26th-28th

Antlers Hotel

4 S. Cascade Avenue, 80903

*Garage parking, DJ Dance, Garden of the Gods Sunrise
Meeting, Pool party, Fellowship, Red Bull, Shenanigans,
Speakers.*

Turning Point May Speakers

7pm, Saturday

10400 Ute Pass Avenue

Green Mountain Falls, CO 80819

05/06/17: Rachael W (from Happy Destiny)

05/13/17: Sean P. (from Walk the Talk)

05/20/17: AlAnon/AA Speaker

05/27/17: Sara M. (from Primary Purpose)

In the month of **MARCH**
the Service Office received
2 Grateful Giver contributions,
1 Personal contributions,
and
2 Birthday contributions!

Thank You!

**DO YOU HAVE A SUBMISSION
FOR THE PINT?**

- Articles*
- Cartoons*
- Event Fliers*
- Jokes*
- Poems*
- Birthdays*
- Even feedback*

PLEASE SEND SUBMISSIONS TO:
pint@coloradospringsaa.org

Tired of riding *on* the fellowship and want to get inside?
Sponsor pestering you to do some service work?

Want to get involved but just don't know what to do?
Then jump right in and start answering the phone!

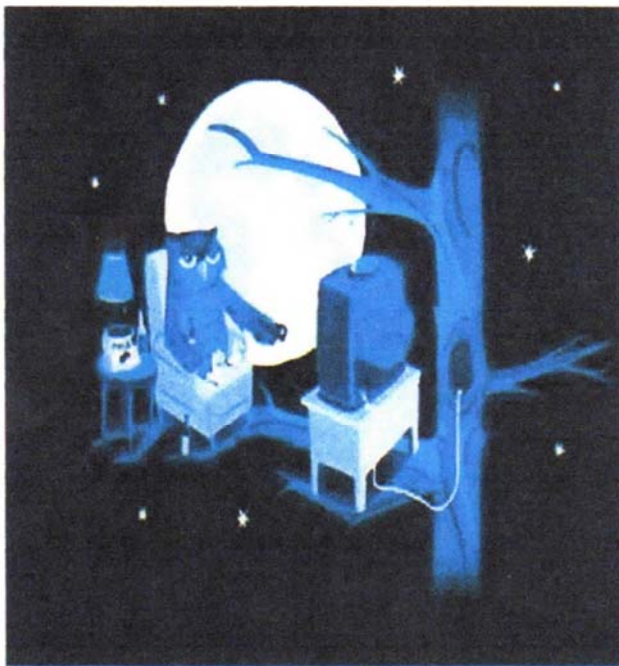
**That's right ladies and gentlemen,
NIGHTWATCH needs YOU!**



Nightwatch is one of the most rewarding service positions available.

Thanks to the spirit of rotation we all get a chance to do a little service that has a HUGE impact.

You might make a new friend or run into an old one. You could even save a life simply by answering the phone!



For more information
please contact the
Nightwatch chair at:
nightwatch@coloradospringsaa.org

Or contact the
Area Service Office
at 719-573-5020

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

ARCHIVES:

NO MEETINGS SCHEDULED
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

PUBLIC INFORMATION:

2:00pm, 1st Saturday of the month
1st floor Penrose Main Hospital
2222 N. Nevada

in Volunteer Coordinator Conference Room

C.P.C.:

(Cooperation with the Professional Community)
1:00pm, 4th Saturday of the month
Sand Creek Library
1821 S. Academy Blvd. (large study room).

DISTRICT 7:

7:00pm, 3rd Tuesday of the month
First United Methodist Church
420 N. Nevada, Room 135 (Boulder St. Access)

TREATMENT:

10am, 2nd Saturday of the month
Penrose Hospital Volunteer Conference Room
2222 N. Nevada

SPECIAL NEEDS:

NO MEETINGS SCHEDULED
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

NIGHTWATCH:

7:00pm, 1st Tuesday of the month
Sacred Heart Parish
21st and Pikes Peak
Room 10 - Following the New Beginners meeting

For more committee information,
please go to coloradospringsaa.org

CONTRIBUTION ADDRESSES

~ 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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