



Special: Quiz, page 6!

THE PIKES PEAK PINT

April 2018

A newsletter for the Pikes Peak Region of Alcoholics Anonymous

‘If I can do it, so can you’

A unique man, just like the rest of us

I took my first drink at 12 years old. What was intended to be one shot each of my Dad’s whiskey with a couple of friends turned into two, because if one was good, two must be twice as good.

When it came to alcohol, I lived like that for many years to come. At first it was quite fun. Then it was fun with problems.

Then it was just problems. I went through this transition pretty quickly. I found myself in the rooms of Alcoholics Anonymous for the first time at 17 years old.



I could not, or would not give myself to this simple program.

I was different than you guys.

The next 11 years were a seemingly endless cycle of: Get sober but don’t really take any action; somewhat put the pieces of my life back together; and finally, find some trivial excuse to drink.

My drinking caused more wreckage in my life. I drank more to attempt getting numb to the problems I

See Unique, page 4

Expectations lead to frustrations

It’s March and there is a focus on Step 3, “Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God *as we understood Him*”.

I was meditating on this Step and how it fits into my recovery and sobriety.

What came to mind was the direction in Step 11 which says we

usually conclude the period of meditation with a prayer that we will be shown through the day what our next step is to be, that we will be given whatever we need to take care of such problems.

My keen alcoholic mind did its translation somewhere along the line and it meant I should pray for the strength to endure and to for-

give all. Not so bad, right?

Every car that cuts me off, every traffic light that turns red just before I make it through the intersection, every person who doesn’t listen to my “great input” at work, or family that doesn’t cooperate to my satisfaction ... these are my “problems” to “endure”. This

See Promises, page 8



Walk The Talk

Jim R.	4/9/11
Dan G.	4/7/91
John S.	4/17/16
Bill W.	4/7/16
Robyn C.	4/29/08
Bob W.	4/2/15
Jeff I.	4/26/13
Ryan M.	4/21/14
Rachel N.	4/28/04

We Are Not Saints

<i>Marc A.</i>	<i>1 year!!</i>
Carol M.	3 years
Heather B.	6 years
Jan Z.	18 years
Jen S.	8 years
Rob S.	15 years
<i>Sean M.</i>	<i>1 year!!</i>

Sunlight of the Spirit Women

Andrea A.	5/25/99
Holly	2/1/98
Wendy M.	7/20/91
Ann S.	5/24/11
Margot B.	9/28/08
Teresa M.	1/13/13
Jenny L.	8/12/14

Easy Does It

Bridgett M.	4/14/14
Chris H.	4/9/05
Dave B.	4/4/06
David B.	4/23/14
Jerry G.	4/20/15
Julie G.	4/6/14
Leslie C.	4/30/16
Niki C.	4/1/11

New Woman

Linda C.	8 years
MaryAnn S.	6 years
Rachelle M.	3 years
Tawnya	2 years
Sandi S.	2 years

Serenity Riders

Toni G.	4/4/06
Lisa A.	4/14/07
Dave B.	4/4/06
Dave B.	4/18/10
Jenn R.	4/22/07
John S.	4/19/76
Bob S.	4/28/08
Bill J.	4/10/95
Buzz B.	4/5/84

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.

STEP 4:

Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.



CONCEPT 4:

At all responsible levels, we ought to maintain a traditional “Right of Participation,” allowing a voting representation in reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge.

- Do we understand the spiritual principles underlying the “Right of Participation”?
- What does “in reasonable proportion” mean? Do we understand when it is appropriate for A.A. paid staff to have a vote at the General Service Conference or in our local service structure?
- ♦ Do we expect that, because we are A.A. members, we should be allowed to vote at any group, even if we are not active members of that group?

TRADITION 4:

Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole.

TRADITION 4 CHECKLIST:

1. Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or AA as a whole.
2. Do I insist that there are only a few right ways of doing things in AA?
3. Does my group always consider the welfare of the rest of AA? Of nearby groups? Of loners in Alaska? Of internationalists miles from port? Of a group in Rome or El Salvador?
4. Do I put down other members’ behavior when it is different from mine, or do I learn from it?
5. Do I always bear in mind that, to those outsiders who know I am in AA, I may to some extent represent our entire beloved Fellowship?
6. Am I willing to help a newcomer go to any lengths – his lengths, not mine – to stay sober?
7. Do I share my knowledge of AA tools with other members who may not have heard of them?

Alcohol became my master

Unique, from page 1

had caused. I kept drinking until the consequences forced me into a position where I had to get sober again.

Again, and again, and again.

I had spent a significant amount of time in the rooms of Alcoholics Anonymous during that time. I turned 21 in the rooms. I heard the things you talked about and got pretty good at parroting it back to you. I even got a fake sponsor a couple of times. I say fake, because I never utilized those sponsors or took any of the actions suggested by them. See, I was different than you guys.

Alcohol has a way of being the great persuader. I'm one of those people who needed to try every single one of my ideas about controlling and enjoying my liquor several dozen times before I became convinced.

Alcohol absolutely convinced me that it was my master. I was left with a choice. Go on to the bitter end, blotting out the consciousness

of my intolerable situation the best I could. Or accept that I had nowhere else to go, except AA. That is what accepting spiritual help looked like for me in the beginning.

Alcohol had truly brought me to my knees. I was out of ideas.

Maybe I wasn't so different after all.

I was fortunate to walk into a group that didn't allow me to slip between the cracks. The men surrounded me. They hassled me about sponsorship.

When I got a sponsor to get them off my back, they hassled me about what Step I was on. They drilled into my head that it didn't matter what I thought or how I felt, but what I *did*.

Action.

Go to a meeting every day, call your sponsor every day, have a service position at your home group, pray and meditate morning and night, and work the Steps out of the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous with the direction and guidance of your sponsor. They also highly encouraged me to hang out

with them outside of meetings.

Those guys saved my life. One day at a time, I began to take those actions to the best of my ability despite how I felt at times and despite my mind telling me that I was somehow special and different. I have not found it necessary to pick up a drink (or drug) since the end of February 2012. The men and women of Alcoholics Anonymous continue to save my life on a daily basis. They tell me the truth. They tell me it doesn't matter what I think or how I feel.

What matters is what I do. So today to stay sober, I go to a meeting almost every day, I talk to my sponsor and other recovering alcoholics on a daily basis, I pray and meditate morning and night, I have a service position at my home group, I work and apply the steps in my daily life, I hang out with others in the fellowship outside of meetings, and I try to carry the message of hope to the alcoholic who still suffers.

If I can do it, so can you.

— *Jeremiah T.*

Thank you

**During February, the
Service Office received 1 Grateful Giver
contribution, 1 Personal contribution, and
1 Birthday contribution!**

**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.**



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Meeting changes ...

Graceful women change entry

The Women of Grace group that meets at Grace & St. Stephens Church, 601 N. Tejon St., Wednesdays at 6 p.m., has new instructions to get into the building. Please enter through the southwest door by the flagpole. If you're late, please call the number posted at the door so someone can let you in.

Downtown meetings closed

The Downtown Promises meeting, Mondays at 210 N. Corona at 5:30 p.m., is no longer gathering. Also, the open discussion A.A. meeting that had met Thursdays at 7 p.m. there is now called The Real Deal. It is now a closed beginners' meeting.

Are you a problem *thinker*?

A new A.A. meeting has sprung up, called Problem Thinkers. It's an open discussion meeting for atheists and agnostics that meets Sundays at 7 p.m. They meet at Unity in the Rockies, 1945 Mesa Rd. Enter through the main doors next to the flag pole.

New Tuesday Big Book group

A new open Big Book discussion A.A. meeting Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. has launched. It meets at the Phoenix Multi-Sport Building, 2204 Hagerman St., on the city's west side.

It's All About Recovery

A new group called All About Recovery, meets Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at 7 p.m. and Tuesdays and Fridays at 3 p.m. at the Cedarwood Health Care Center, 924 W. Kiowa St., downstairs in the conference room. Come help plant the seed of A.A. with the newcomers at this recovery center.

... and new groups

Meditate on changes

The Happy, Joyous and Free meeting Fridays at 7:30 p.m. at the Beth-El Mennonite Church, 4625 Ranch Drive, now begins with a guided meditation and discussions include the Big Book and 12X12.

Under the Bridge moves west

The Under the Bridge Group that had met Thursdays under the bridge at 216 W. Colorado Ave. now meets at 2204 W. Hagerman St., near Phoenix Multisport.

Live! From Colorado Springs! It's Saturday Niiiiight!!!

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

- April 7, Perry S.
- April 14, Dane O.
- April 21, John S.
- April 28, Robyn C.

All Newcomers welcome

The Central Group at 309 S. Hancock has opened a new Saturday 1 p.m. meeting for newcomers. There's a kid-friendly room so bring your kiddos ... or is that room for us alcoholics?!?!?

New group loves and tolerates

A new group called Love and Tolerance gathers Mondays at 7 p.m. at Clean Slate, 1769 S. 8th Street, building P. It's an open discussion, wheelchair accessible meeting that welcomes all, LGBTQ and straight.

That means if you're a purple alien with antennae coming out of your head and you have a desire to stop drinking, you're welcome to join.



Beginning
April 1st, 2018

Closed Saturday, Sunday and **Monday!!**

Your Area
Service
Office has
new
office
hours!

Tuesday – Friday
9:00am – 5:00pm

Important factors that would help to reopen
the office on Mondays:

More Group,
Personal, Birthday
and Grateful Giver
Contributions!!!

Buy your literature
and Medallions at
the Service Office!!!

A springtime question:

If April showers bring May flowers, what do May flowers bring?

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS:

GROUP NAME (2017-2018)	Fiscal YTD	February
A Common Solution	\$330.05	\$123.50
12 Steps From The Morgue	\$181.50	\$0.00
Apex	\$608.59	\$171.59
Back to Basics	\$1,295.74	\$140.27
Beacon Light Group	\$0.00	\$0.00
Big Book Action	\$488.00	\$0.00
Big Book Study UPH	\$324.00	\$0.00
Black Forest	\$819.88	\$0.00
Broadmoor	\$150.00	\$150.00
Brown Baggers	\$150.00	\$0.00
Central	\$156.07	\$10.00
Clean Air Group	\$0.00	\$0.00
Don't Worry Be Happy	\$1,589.89	\$121.03
Down By The Creek	\$0.00	\$0.00
Downtown Group	\$1,049.10	\$0.00
Drylander's Group	\$0.00	\$0.00
Easy Does It	\$1,352.62	\$368.40
Ellicott Group	\$302.00	\$0.00
4th Dimension Rocketeers	\$145.00	\$0.00
Foxhall Group	\$450.00	\$0.00
Friday Night Live	\$513.50	\$0.00
Friday Women's Group	\$1,145.50	\$247.50
Good Ole Boys	\$350.00	\$0.00
Happy Destiny	\$256.47	\$0.00
Happy Heathens	\$328.50	\$0.00
Happy Hour	\$0.00	\$0.00
Happy, Joyous & Free	\$0.00	\$0.00
High Noon	\$120.00	\$0.00
H.O.W.	\$0.00	\$0.00
Into Action	\$855.44	\$238.20
Keystone to Recovery	\$100.00	\$0.00
Lake George Group	\$240.00	\$0.00
Limon AA	\$25.00	\$0.00
Little Log Church Group	\$254.00	\$120.00
Living Free	\$150.00	\$0.00
Living Sober South	\$399.81	\$54.00
M.A.G.	\$702.25	\$0.00
Meditation Group - Tues. 5:30	\$300.00	\$0.00
Natural High	\$16.00	\$0.00
New Beginners	\$593.84	\$0.00
New Woman	\$778.00	\$0.00
Northwesters	\$312.14	\$0.00
Off The Wall	\$185.04	\$0.00
Old North End Study Group	\$362.98	\$0.00

GROUP NAME (2017-2018)	Fiscal YTD	February
One Six Four Group	\$423.63	\$175.00
Pre-Dawn Group	\$450.00	\$0.00
Primary Purpose	\$150.00	\$0.00
Progress Not Perfection	\$0.00	\$0.00
Recovery in Action	\$683.70	\$0.00
Recovery, Unity, Service Group	\$291.00	\$0.00
Rule 62, Victor	\$16.00	\$0.00
Saturday Early Morning Mtg.	\$1,110.95	\$0.00
Saturday Morning Anonymous	\$0.00	\$0.00
Security Eye Opener	\$281.00	\$0.00
Serenity Hour	\$525.00	\$25.00
Serenity Riders	\$237.47	\$0.00
Serenity Sisters	\$305.10	\$0.00
Sober Sisters	\$112.50	\$0.00
Solutions at Noon	\$0.00	\$0.00
Sought Through Prayer & Meditation	\$263.76	\$54.50
Steel Magnolias	\$456.03	\$0.00
Stepping Stones	\$0.00	\$0.00
Sunday Morning Speaker	\$0.00	\$0.00
Sunlight of the Spirit	\$697.95	\$0.00
Taking Steps	\$41.00	\$0.00
The Doctor's Opinion	\$0.00	\$0.00
The Garage Meeting	\$123.10	\$5.00
Then and Now	\$189.61	\$0.00
Thursday Men's Group	\$316.63	\$0.00
Thursday Noon		
Woodland Park	\$177.03	\$0.00
Traditions Only	\$0.00	\$0.00
Treating The Illness	\$54.00	\$0.00
Turning Point	\$50.00	\$10.00
Ute Pass Breakfast Group	\$400.00	\$400.00
Veterans for AA	\$100.00	\$0.00
Walk the Talk	\$5,923.71	\$425.00
Walking on Water	\$180.00	\$0.00
We Are Not Saints	\$1,957.97	\$0.00
Westside Eye Opener	\$0.00	\$0.00
Women of Grace	\$354.00	\$0.00
Woodland Park Beginners	\$0.00	\$0.00
Woodland Park Book Study	\$351.50	\$0.00
Woodland Park		
Women's Step Study	\$460.00	\$400.00
Young People	\$1,028.90	\$0.00
Totals:	\$35,092.45	\$3,238.99

Experience, strength, hope, and joy

My mom was an alcoholic. I hated growing up in an alcoholic home. Growing up, I **swore** I would never drink. That lasted alllllllll the way to ninth grade when I crashed a varsity boys' soccer party. I still recall the *Pure Liquid Joy* of my first drink. The beer tasted icky, but I LOVED the effect. Couldn't get enough. If you're reading this, you know how it goes.

I was an alcoholic from the first drop.

Fast forward a couple decades, lots and lots of booze (and bucks), many failed relationships, one wrecked marriage, and it came time for me to quit drinking. One month after my divorce, I moved to a small town, to work a dream job that truly landed in my lap. I started life anew: I lived alone, I knew no one in this little town, and I worked solo. Of course I drank alone too.

One day, my choice in life (reality) smacked me hard in the face: Is my "new" life the same as the old — drinking alone every day, isolating with my best friend alcohol; or do I somehow quit drinking?

I never heard of Alcoholics Anonymous growing up, and my mom never got sober at treatment centers, so I thought I'd give AA a shot, no pun intended.

It wasn't easy, but my pickled mind could under-

stand simple suggestions like these: don't drink between meetings; call someone if you feel like drinking; read the Big Book; look for the similarities of my story to others' — not the differences; go to 90 meetings in 90 days; get a sponsor; work the Steps. I never wanted anything as much as I wanted sobriety.

This little town had one AA meeting a week.

I drove miles upstream and downstream to attend meetings. I did what was suggested: Go to any length to get sober and to stay sober. Thank God gas was less than \$1 a gallon back then.

Since then, by the grace of God, kind and loving sponsors, and the fellowship of this program, I've been through a lot in sobriety. Mom and I became best friends because we understood each other so well. Thanks to the program, I endured the deaths of my parents, losing jobs, getting a life-altering health diagnosis, and more, all sober.

I've been through the highest points of my life too — helping other alcoholics get and stay sober. Nothing feels better than watching the light **come** back into someone's eyes, seeing families reunited, loving others until they can love themselves.

— *Anonymous*

My job is to be of service

Promises, from page 1

meant I started each day ready for battle, assuming each situation I encounter today is a conquest, each point of decision was all or nothing at all ...

At this point, I realized my thinking was very warped and I start the day full of self-righteousness and overblown piety.

"What usually happens? The show doesn't come off very well." Matter of fact, it tends to go really badly. None of those people were aware of my expectations. I assumed they were the opposing force I must change, when they actually may not know or *care* what I

think. They didn't appreciate my unsolicited advice or instruction (a.k.a. criticism).

My second realization is that I'm supposed to be of service, not try to run the whole show.

Looking at the direction in Step 11 again, I realized I need to do exactly what it says to work Step 3 daily. Assume nothing and let go of my expectations.

So, I ask to be given *whatever* I need for the situation. That may be humor, the ability to grieve, patience, clarity, kindness, resolve, insight, acceptance, or a combination of those. I don't know what I'll need, so I follow this direction: "As we go through the day we pause,

when agitated or doubtful, and ask for the right thought or action. We constantly remind ourselves we are no longer running the show, humbly saying to ourselves many times each day, 'Thy will be done.' We are then in much less danger of excitement, fear, anger, worry, self-pity, or foolish decisions." (Foolish decisions being *my* super power).

Better yet, I have a promise waiting for me: "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."

— *Ann S. Colorado Springs*

Answer: Pilgrims!

LOCAL SERVICE OFFICE

Hours: Tuesday/Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

SAT./SUN./MON.: CLOSED

Location: 1353 South 8th Street, Suite 209

Colorado Springs, CO 80905

Contact the Service Office

719.573.5020

E/mail: serviceoffice@coloradospringsaa.org

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

CORRECTIONS:

9 a.m., 3rd Saturday of the month
Sacred Heart Parish Room 10,
southeast corner of 21st & Colorado Ave.

PUBLIC INFORMATION:

1 p.m., 4th Saturday of the month
Sand Creek Library, 1821 S. Academy Blvd.
large study room

This group now meets with the Cooperating with the
Professional Community Committee
(see immediately below)

C.P.C. (PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY):

1 p.m., 4th Saturday of the month
Sand Creek Library, 1821 S. Academy Blvd.
large study room.

This group now meets with the Public Information
Committee (see immediately above)

DISTRICT 7:

7 p.m., 3rd Tuesday of the month
First United Methodist Church
420 N. Nevada, Room 135 (Boulder Street access)

TREATMENT:

5:30 p.m., 3rd Thursday of the month
Penrose Hospital, 2222 N. Nevada Ave., board room

NIGHTWATCH:

7 p.m., 1st Tuesday of the month
Sacred Heart Parish, 21st and Pikes Peak Ave.
Room 10, following the New Beginners' meeting

WHERE TO SEND CONTRIBUTIONS

~ AREA SERVICE OFFICE ~

Payable to: Colorado Springs
Area Service Office
1353 South 8th St., Suite 209
Colorado Springs, CO 80905
(Include group name and number on check)

~ GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE ~

Payable to: GSO
P.O. Box 459 / Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10163
(Include group name and number on check)

~ AREA 10 ~

Payable to: Area 10 Treasurer
12081 West Alameda Parkway #418
Lakewood, CO 80228
(Include group name, number
and District 7 on check)

~ DISTRICT 7 ~

Payable to: District 7
P.O. Box 26252
Colorado Springs, CO 80936
(Include group name, number
and District 7 on check)

~ PINK CAN CONTRIBUTIONS ~

Payable to: Area 10 Corrections Committee
P.O. Box 40368
Denver, CO 80204
(Include group name and number on check)

• **CASH ACCEPTED IN PERSON ONLY** •

How much did
YOU pay
for a drink?

Please help others

Please donate \$1 for each year of sobriety
to the General Service Office, the Area
Service Office, or both.

It costs money to spread the hope
of a new life worth living
through Alcoholics Anonymous.

PATHWAY TO FREEDOM

CORRECTIONS CONFERENCE



April 14th, 2018
Registration opens at 8am
Conference starts at 9am

Breakfast and lunch will be provided. Dinner
is a CHILI COOKOFF, so please bring chili to

Central Christian Church
3690 Cherry Creek Dr.
Denver, CO 80209

Please bring any and all old grapevines to
donate to inmates in the CDOC.

CDOC Basic volunteer and Update training available (please contact Ellie C (704) 778- 1811)
Speakers, Panels, and Workshops

For questions contact Ashlee M (719) 424- 9591

[VIEW ON MAP](#)

<https://goo.gl/maps/PnYNhDBush42>

NAME: _____ HOME GROUP: _____

CHECKS PAYABLE TO AREA 10 CORRECTIONS COMMITTEE

PHONE NUMBER: _____

MAIL TO:

CORRECTIONS CONFERENCE

REGISTRATION (\$10 /PERSON): _____

PO BOX 40368

DONATION: _____

DENVER, CO 80204

TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____

~~~~~

# PATHWAY TO FREEDOM

## 2018 AREA 10 CORRECTIONS CONFERENCE

April 14th, 2018  
Registration opens at 8am  
Conference starts at 9am

Central Christian Church  
3690 Cherry Creek Dr.  
Denver, CO 80209

Breakfast and lunch will be provided. Dinner is a  
CHILI COOKOFF, so please bring chili to share.

Please bring any and all old grapevines to donate  
to inmates in the CDOC.

CDOC Basic volunteer and Update training available (please contact Ellie C (704) 778- 1811)  
Speakers, Panels, and Workshops

*For questions contact Ashlee M (719) 424- 9591*

### HOTELS NEARBY:

Holiday Inn  
455 S Colorado Blvd, Denver, CO 80246

Extended Stay America  
4444 Leetsdale Dr, Glendale, CO 80246

Hilton Garden Inn  
600 S Colorado Blvd, Denver, CO 80246

Residence Inn by Marriott  
670 S Colorado Blvd, Denver, CO 80246

### DRIVING DIRECTIONS

FROM I-25

Coming from north take exit 205 for Alameda Ave

Coming from south take exit 207B for Santa Fe DR

Take Alameda Ave East (away from the mountains) 2.9 miles

Turn right onto Cherry Creek S DR.  
Central Christian Church is .1 miles on the right side