



# THE PIKES PEAK PINT

August 2018

A newsletter for the Pikes Peak Region of Alcoholics Anonymous

## *A jaywalker shares her story*

As I sit here and think back to four years ago when my drinking was at its worst, I am reminded of one of my favorite stories in the Alcoholics Anonymous Big Book, the story about the jaywalker on pages 37-38. I have often heard people in the rooms say they can't relate to this description of an alcoholic, but for me I can't think of a story that is more fitting of my drinking career.

In synopsis, time after time this man is injured because of his passion for jaywalking. Everyone around him finds his behavior strange and can't understand why he would keep jaywalking after all the devastating injuries he has sustained from his jaywalking. The big book gives us the answer: "However intelligent we may have been in other respects, where alcohol has been involved, we have been strangely insane. It's strong language – but



isn't it true?" (Alcoholics Anonymous p. 38)

I know for me this couldn't be truer. I didn't like the idea at first of admitting that I may be insane, surely that was a bit extreme.

However, as I look back at my life today, the only explanation that makes any sense is that I was insane.

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*See Jaywalker, page 5*



**We Are Not Saints**  
 Brett B. 1 year!!  
 Pamela A. 2 years  
 Sandy J. 38 years

**Steel Magnolias**  
 Susan H. 33 years  
 Karen T. 23 years  
 Kelly 25 years

**Walk The Talk**  
 Melo 8/8/16  
 Annie H. 8/28/15  
 Peggy S. 8/16/96  
 Sandy W. 8/10/77

**Friday Women**  
*Connie W.* 1 year!!  
 Becky T. 2 years  
 Lyn I. 35 years  
 Laurie B. 31 years

**Happy Heathens**  
 Sherry J. 33 years  
 Mike K. 34 years

**Serenity Riders**  
 Amy S. 8/12/07  
 Cindy M. 8/23/11  
 CC 8/13/80  
 Dave M. 8/25/15  
 Rose R. 8/9/82  
 Tripod 8/8/93  
 Kevin M. 8/28/88  
 Kimo H. 8/28/91  
 Mary 8/15/94

**New Woman**  
 Rhonda 16 years  
 Kathleen G. 10 years  
 Karen S. 31 years  
 Trisha F. 2 years

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

**16th annual**

# ***Easy Does It***

## **Potluck BBQ**

**Easy Does It will provide hamburgers and hotdogs, and everyone else will bring their favorite culinary potluck delight!**

**Aug. 12, noon-4 p.m.**

**We'll have games  
and a speaker**

**Monument Valley Park, 170 W. Cache LaPoudre**

# STEP 8:

Made a list of all persons we had harmed and became willing to make amends to them all.



## CONCEPT 8:

*The Charter and Bylaws of the General Service Board are legal instruments, empowering the trustees to manage and conduct world service affairs. The Conference Charter is not a legal document; it relies upon tradition and the A.A. purse for final effectiveness.*

- Do we understand the relationship between the two corporate service entities (A.A. World Services, Inc., the A.A. Grapevine) and the General Service Board?
- How can the business term “custodial oversight” apply to the trustees’ relationship to the two corporate service entities?
- ♦ Does my home group subscribe to G.S.O.’s bimonthly newsletter Box 4-5-9? The A.A. Grapevine? Do I?

## TRADITION 8:

Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.

## TRADITION 8 CHECKLIST:

- ♦ Is my own behavior accurately described by the Traditions? If not, what needs changing?
- ♦ When I chafe about any particular Tradition, do I realize how it affects others?
- ♦ Do I sometimes try to get some reward – even if not money – for my personal AA efforts?
- ♦ Do I try to sound in AA like an expert on alcoholism? On recovery? On medicine? On sociology? On AA itself? On psychology? On spiritual matters? Or, heaven help me, even on humility?
- ♦ Do I make an effort to understand what AA employees do? What workers in other alcoholism agencies do? Can I distinguish clearly among them?
- ♦ In my own AA life, have I any experiences which illustrate the wisdom of this Tradition.
- ♦ Have I paid enough attention to the book Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions? To the pamphlet AA Tradition – How It Developed?

# *She didn't want her kids to be motherless*

*Jaywalker, from page 1* I had been diagnosed with stage four cirrhosis of the liver and been hospitalized because varices in my esophagus exploded and I had lost 20 percent of my blood. (Esophageal varices are abnormal, enlarged veins in the lower third of the esophagus. They are associated with liver disease.)

The doctor told my husband if he hadn't intervened and brought me to the hospital I would have bled to death within three days.

This was scary enough for me to conclude that maybe I should quit drinking.

That resolution lasted for three months before the insanity set back in and I was drinking again. I was able to convince myself that surely three months of sobriety had healed my liver and this time around I could drink like a normal person.

This of course was not the case.

My drinking took an even more dangerous turn, which put myself

and many others in harm's way. Those around me *had* to be feeling like those around that jaywalker, wondering why I would continue to drink knowing the consequences of my actions were fatal. On page 39 of the Big Book it once again gives me the answer.

"But the actual or potential alcoholic, with hardly an exception, will be absolutely unable to stop drinking on the basis of self-knowledge."

Despite the pleadings from my husband, the recommendations of the doctors and advice of the therapists I was lying to, I continued to drink. No amount of self-knowledge could overcome the alcoholic insanity I was battling.

Thank God that is not where my story ends, as it does for so many alcoholics who share the same insanity I do.

Through the grace of God, I made it (kicking and screaming) into the rooms of Alcoholics Anon-

ymous.

After rehab, I was so desperate for my life to not end in a drunken blur and to not leave my children with the tragedy of living without a mother because she drank herself to death, I did everything the people around me told me to do. I got a sponsor, I did 90 meetings in 90 days, I worked a set of steps, I chaired meetings, I volunteered for service work.

I did anything that was suggested because I did not want the insanity to return.

I take very little credit for my sobriety because I know of my own will I am a drunk who will drink herself to death.

But with God's help I am a sober woman who is able to ask God to continue to remove my insanity so that today and every day moving forward I no longer have to be that jaywalker.

— Jenny L.



*Feeling adrift?*

**Anchor yourself ...**

**... with Alcoholics Anonymous**



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## *Meeting changes ...*

### **Live! From Colorado Springs! It's Saturday Niiiiight!! IN AUGUST!!!**

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

- August 4, Frank
- August 11, Sandy W.
- August 18, Judith G.
- August 25, Katie S.

### **Foxhall adds speaker meeting**

The Foxhall Group (discussion, open, handicap access) at 5075 Flintridge Drive, Center for Spiritual Living (east of Academy, corner of Mira Loma) has added a speaker meeting on the last Wednesday of every month. This group meets Wednesdays at 7 p.m.

### **Happy, Joyous, and Free goes away (frown emoji)**

The Happy, Joyous, and Free group that met Fridays at 7:30 p.m., is no longer meeting. This is the group that began its meetings with a guided meditation and that met at the Beth-El Mennonite Church, 4625 Ranch Drive, east of Austin Bluffs and Academy.

### **Un-Glammers adds legacies**

The We are Not a Glum Lot discussion group (open, handicap access) that meets Mondays at 6 p.m. at the Rocky Mountain Recovery Foundation, 4360 Montebello Drive, suite 700, will now focus on the Three Legacies. If you're not glum either and you're looking for a Lot, please join us!

## *... and old news too*

### **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 people, LGBTQ and straight.

### **Un-Glammers introduce new facets to meetings**

The We are Not a Glum Lot discussion group (open, handicap access) that meets Friday evenings will now have a speaker and potluck every Friday.

The potluck starts at 5 p.m., followed by the speaker at 6. The candlelight meditation meeting follows at 7:30 p.m.

This group meets at the Rocky Mountain Recovery Foundation, 4360 Montebello Drive, suite 700.

### **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 there, so bring your kiddos!

### **Big Book group seeks support**

The Thursday 6 p.m. Big Book study meeting could use some support for the newcomers who frequent this group. It takes place at the First United Methodist Church, 420 N. Nevada Ave., Room 135. The easiest way to get there is to enter through the (far left) door on Boulder Avenue. The meeting is at the top of the stairs to the left.

### **Downtown group disbands**

The 6:30 a.m. Early Bird group at 210 N. Corona has stopped meeting.

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

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS

### CORRECTIONS:

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

### PI (PUBLIC INFORMATION):

1 p.m., 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month  
Sand Creek Library, 1821 S. Academy Blvd.  
large study room This group meets with CPC.

### CPC (PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY):

1 p.m., 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month  
Sand Creek Library, 1821 S. Academy Blvd.  
large study room. This group meets with PI.

### PROGRAMS:

6 p.m., 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month, Colorado Springs  
Area Service Office, 1353 S. 8th St., Suite 209

### 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

### 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)

## WHERE TO SEND CONTRIBUTIONS

For all, please include your group name and group number on the check

### ~ AREA SERVICE OFFICE ~

Payable to: Colorado Springs  
Area Service Office  
1353 South 8<sup>th</sup> St., Suite 209  
Colorado Springs, CO 80905

### ~ GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE ~

Payable to: GSO  
P.O. Box 459/Grand Central Station  
New York, NY 10163

### ~ AREA 10 ~

Payable to: Area 10 Treasurer  
12081 W. Alameda Parkway, #418  
Lakewood, CO 80228

### ~ DISTRICT 7 ~

Payable to: District 7,  
P.O. Box 26252,  
Colorado Springs, CO 80936

### ~ PINK CAN CONTRIBUTIONS ~

Payable to: Area 10 Corrections Committee  
P.O. Box 40368,  
Denver, CO 80204

• **CASH ACCEPTED IN PERSON ONLY** •

How much did  
*YOU* pay to drink?

*Please help others*

Consider throwing \$2 into the basket when it comes around. Also, 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 AA.

Please see [coloradospringsaa.org](http://coloradospringsaa.org)