

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



Pikes Peak Pint

September 2010

AREA MEETING ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, AND CHANGES

To include new meetings, changes, or cancellations please deliver or email them to our service office.

- **NEW:** There will be new open **DETOX** meetings every Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 2739 E. Las Vegas in the tent next to CJC.
- **DELETION:** The 11pm **CENTRAL GROUP CANDLELIGHT MEETINGS** on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at 2011 E. La Salle have been cancelled.
- **DELETION:** The 7pm **SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE at Parc Speaker Meeting** at 5250 Pikes Peak in Cascade CO is being cancelled as of 9-01-2010.
- **DELETION:** The 6pm **BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER** meeting Fridays at 5160 N. Union Blvd. has been cancelled.
- **DELETION:** The **DRYLANDERS GROUP Paulson Senior Center** that meets Mondays at noon on Highway 24 in Calhan CO has been cancelled.

Notes from the Editor

Write to the editor at pint@coloradospringsaa.org



- **SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES** page 5
- The **LONGTIMERS DINNER** page 7
- Open **SERVICE POSITIONS!!** page 7
- **COLORADO STATE CONVENTION** page 8
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Love IT? Hate IT?

Have something to SAY about IT?

Email sobriety anniversaries, announcements, letters to the editor, and email subscription requests to the Pikes Peak Pint before the 20th of each month!

pint@coloradospringsaa.org

We'd LOVE to hear from you!

LOCAL SERVICE OFFICE

T-F 9am-5pm, SAT 9am-12pm
1353 South 8th Street, Suite 209
Colorado Springs, CO 80905

719-573-5020

Email: serviceoffice@coloradospringsaa.org

Website: www.coloradospringsaa.org

INTERGROUP INFORMATION

(Contact the Service Office for Chair phone numbers.)

DISTRICT COMMITTEES

Corrections

Greg N. - Chair
Renee - Vice Chair
corrections@coloradospringsaa.org

Public Information

Jack - Chair
OPEN - Vice Chair
pi@coloradospringsaa.org

CPC (Cooperation with the Professional Community)

Joey - Chair
Larry S. - Vice Chair
cpc@coloradospringsaa.org

Treatment

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

LOCAL SERVICE COMMITTEES

Program

Tomas M. - Chair
Megan H. - Vice Chair
programs@coloradospringsaa.org

Pint

Amiee F. - Chair
OPEN - Vice Chair
pint@coloradospringsaa.org

Volunteer

Casey - Chair
Adrienne - Vice Chair
programs@coloradospringsaa.org

Nightwatch

Dana - Chair
Jessica S. - Vice Chair
nightwatch@coloradospringsaa.org

Web Site

Bert B. - Chair
Dana E. - Vice Chair
webmaster@coloradospringsaa.org

Archives

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

CONTRIBUTION ADDRESSES

(Cash accepted in person only, please do not mail.)

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:

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

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 Contributions
PO Box 1307
Englewood, CO 80150

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



In the month of July
we received
6 Grateful Giver contributions
and 1 Personal contribution!!!

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

NAME OF MEETING	JULY 2010	YR TO DATE	NAME OF MEETING	JULY 2010	YR TO DATE
ABOVE THE BAR		\$0.00	LIVING FREE		\$0.00
APEX		\$157.00	LIVING SOBER		\$0.00
BACK TO BASICS	\$88.99	\$278.82	M.A.G.		\$300.00
BEACON LIGHT		\$150.00	MOTHERLODE		\$0.00
BIG BOOK ACTION		\$155.50	NATURAL HIGH		\$0.00
BIG BOOK STUDY UPH		\$250.00	NEW BEGINNERS		\$227.26
BLACK FOREST	\$84.05	\$254.73	NEW WOMAN'S GROUP	\$172.58	\$301.24
BREATH OF LIFE		\$28.00	NORTHWESTERS		\$122.50
BROADMOOR		\$0.00	NOT A GLUM LOT		\$0.00
BROWN BAGGERS		\$100.00	OASIS GROUP		\$20.00
CELEBRATING DIVERSITY		\$0.00	OFF THE WALL		\$166.00
CENTRAL		\$5.00	OUTRIGHT MENTAL DEFECTIVES		\$0.00
CLEAN AIR GROUP		\$120.00	PASS IT ON		\$0.00
CRIPPLE CREEK NATURAL HIGH		\$0.00	PATHFINDERS		\$0.00
DON'T WORRY BE HAPPY		\$0.00	PENROSE DISCUSSION		\$0.00
DOWN BY THE CREEK		\$0.00	PLUG IN THE JUG		\$170.00
DOWNTOWN GROUP	\$47.59	\$461.45	PRE-DAWN MEETING		\$0.00
DRYLANDER'S GROUP		\$47.10	PROGRESS NOT PERFECTION		\$114.66
EASY BREATHING GROUP	\$64.50	\$64.50	RECOVERY IN ACTION		\$150.00
EASY DOES IT	\$50.00	\$200.00	RULE #62		\$0.00
ELLCOTT GROUP		\$50.00	SATURDAY EARLY MORNING		\$0.00
END OF THE ROAD		\$0.00	SECURITY EYE OPENER		\$0.00
EYE OPENER		\$0.00	SERENITY RIDERS	\$122.13	\$271.48
4TH DIMENSION		\$0.00	SERENITY SISTERS		\$0.00
FAR NORTH GROUP		\$0.00	SILVER KEY SENIORS		\$25.00
FOUNTAIN OF SOBRIETY		\$0.00	SOLUTIONS AT 5:30		\$44.00
FOXHALL GROUP	\$45.68	\$158.68	SOLUTIONS AT NOON	\$202.23	\$294.90
FREEDOM FROM BONDAGE		\$0.00	STEEL MAGNOLIAS	\$74.00	\$159.50
FRIDAY NIGHT 12X12		\$0.00	SUNDAY MORNING SPEAKER		\$0.00
FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE		\$0.00	SUN NGHT BOOK STUDY CLEAN SLATE		\$40.00
FRIDAY WOMEN'S GROUP	\$194.00	\$449.00	SURVIVORS GROUP		\$0.00
GALS OF WOODLAND PARK		\$0.00	TAKING STEPS		\$250.00
GIFT OF THE HEART		\$0.00	THEN AND NOW		\$150.00
GOOD OLE BOYS		\$0.00	THURSDAY MEN'S GROUP		\$150.00
H.O.W.		\$0.00	THURS NOON AT WP		\$95.00
HALF PINT GROUP		\$87.00	UTE PASS BREAKFAST		\$0.00
HAPPY DESTINY	\$153.60	\$325.23	VETERANS FOR AA		\$0.00
HAPPY HOUR		\$330.00	WALK THE TALK		\$720.00
HIGH NOON	\$18.00	\$63.50	WALKING ON WATER	\$100.00	\$300.00
HILLTOP GROUP		\$0.00	WE ARE NOT SAINTS		\$297.20
HUGO GROUP		\$0.00	WED WESTSIDE WOMEN'S		\$0.00
INTO ACTION		\$0.00	WESTSIDE EYE OPENER	\$141.79	\$401.05
KEEP IT SIMPLE		\$0.00	WOMEN'S STEP STUDY @ WP		\$0.00
KEYSTONE TO RECOVERY		\$100.00	WP BEGINNERS MEETING		\$0.00
LAKE GEORGE GROUP		\$0.00	WOODLAND PARK BOOK STUDY		\$200.50
LAST CHANCE		\$0.00	YOUNG PEOPLE		\$0.00
LITTLE LOG GROUP		\$0.00	TOTALS	\$1,559.14	\$8,805.80

***YEAR TO DATE totals reflect the fiscal year starting in April 2010 and ending in March 2011.**

Support your group and support our Service Office!!! Our **7th Tradition** states that we are fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions. Contributions from within the fellowship keep not only each of the individual groups going but also our local Area Service Office. An extra dollar in the basket will help meet our 2010-2011 Intergroup budget goals! Financial Reports are given to group representatives at each monthly Intergroup meeting and are also available at anytime upon request from the local Area Service Office. Once again **THANK YOU TO EVERYONE** for keeping AA strong in Colorado Springs and its surrounding areas!

Anniversaries of Sobriety ~ September 2010

HAPPY HOUR	Karen S. ----- 1 year!	Kathy S. ----- 10 years!	Dawn D. -----7 years!
	Beth G. -----23 years!	Kelsey ----- 2 years!	Ruth H. ----- 25 years!
	Faith F. -----3 years!	Ken J. -----14 years!	Rhonda J. ----- 1 year!
	Sally L. ----- 5 years!	Jody D. -----15 years!	Tisha -----2 years!
	Ruth H. ----- 25 years!	Valerie J. ----- 14 years!	Jody H. -----21 years!
FRIDAY WOMENS	SOLUTIONS @ NOON	WALK THE TALK	John K. -----2 years!
Alma Z. (Aug) ---- 36 years!	Linda M. -----7 years!	Aaron -----3 years!	Lori C. ----- 1 year!
Kathleen (Aug) ---- 2 years!	STEEL MAGNOLIAS	Anne M. -----6 years!	Margot B. -----2 years!
Kristen P. (Aug) ---- 2 years!	Kay H. -----32 years!	Barbara W. -----25 years!	Phil A. -----11 years!
Robin S. (Aug) --- 16 years!	TUESDAY NEW WOMAN	Beth G. -----23 years!	Sandy -----22 years!
Amy L. ----- 2 years!	Cynthia G. ----- 27 years!	Carolyn P. -----17 years!	Stacey T. -----3 years!
Colleen ----- 2 years!	Kathy K. ----- 2 years!	Dan R. -----9 years!	Wayne P. -----28 years!



To submit your group's sober birthdays to The Pint, please email a list of names and the amount of years each person has to: PINT@COLORADOSPRINGSAA.ORG. Please have birthdays and any other announcements or editorials your group would like to contribute submitted by the 20th of each month to ensure enough time for publishing. Thank you for all of your participation and CONGRATULATIONS to everyone celebrating a MILESTONE OF RECOVERY!

AA AROUND TOWN

Longtimer's Dinner with Jamie L.

Carl and I attended the Longtimer's Dinner and were very impressed. The Young People's Group should really be commended for their hard work and dedication to our 'Longtimers' in the area. They did a fabulous job with this event. The facility itself was really nice with flowers on each table too. The food was served to us as we sat down. It was served hot and it was delicious. We felt as if we were being catered to constantly...first the entree, then dessert, and a constant flow of our favorite beverage being served by smiling fresh faces. The speaker (Art) was witty and carried AA's message beautifully as he referred back to our beloved text frequently. The festivities ended with the countdown being done and a lot of us hugging our new "babe" through tears. A night to be remembered for sure.

(The new babe was the last one standing for the sobriety countdown. Not sure who she was. She had 1 day sober and was crying....she didn't say her name...I went over and gave her a hug...a LOT of people did! ♥)

Jamie L.



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 w/ the Professional Community meets the first Saturday of every month at 9am at 7 E. Bijou. Public Information meets the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 6pm on the 5th floor of St. Francis Hospital.

STEP UP INTO SERVICE

The following Service Positions are currently **OPEN** and **NEED** to be filled! Please contact the **Service Office** or come to the next **Intergroup meeting** on Tuesday September 14th to learn how to become involved!

Alternate DCM

Archives Committee - Vice Chairperson

PINT Committee - Vice Chairperson

Corrections Committee - Vice Chairperson

Public Information Committee - Vice Chairperson

NIGHTWATCH has OPEN POSITIONS!!!

Contact **Dana** at nightwatch@coloradospringsaa.org

The SERVICE OFFICE has OPEN POSITIONS!

Volunteer Thursdays 1-3pm or Fridays 9-11pm

Contact **Cissy** at volunteers@coloradospringsaa.org

The TREATMENT COMMITTEE NEEDS volunteers!

Contact **Michael** at treatment@coloradospringsaa.org

**The SERVICE OFFICE is OPEN T-F from 9am-5pm
and NOW OPEN SATURDAYS from 9am-12pm!!!**

AA OUTSIDE of TOWN

2010 COLORADO STATE CONVENTION

Presented by AREA 10 of ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS in cooperation with Area 5 Al-Anon Family Groups

SEPTEMBER 3 - 5, 2010

Marriott Denver Tech Center
4900 South Syracuse
Denver, CO 80237
303-779-1100

Group Room Rate \$89.00
(Single/Double/Triple/Quad)

Reservations:
(800) 266-9432
(Mention 2010 Colorado State Convention)

Please reserve rooms by August 12, 2010
Complimentary Parking for All Attendees

EVENTS

Friday Night Ice Cream Social
Friday Night Talent Show
Workshops
Continuous Meetings
Saturday Al-Anon Luncheon
Saturday Night Banquet
Saturday Night Dance

SPEAKERS

Rick C. - Muskatine, IA - AA
Lori M. - Lakewood, CO - AA
Tom B. - Westminster, CO - AA
Kelly W. - Grand Junction, CO - AFG
Tom I. - Southern Pines, NC - AA
Claudine B. - Denver, CO - AA

S.W.R.A.A.S.A. - Southwest Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly

This assembly occurs every two years at different locations in the region, placing it in Denver every 22 years. The purpose of this assembly is for those in the Southwest Region to learn and share about the General Service structure at the Group, District, Area, and Conference levels and to share information about the trusted service positions within that framework. This year it will be held **October 8 - 11** at the **Doubletree Hotel Denver at 3203 Quebec Street, Denver, CO 80207**. The Contact Registration Chair is Samantha G. at 858-531-8036. The Chairperson is Gelong Tashi at 303-219-0692 or altdelegte@colorado.org. The Alternate Chairperson is Jennifer F. at 970-948-7160 or jpinco@sopris.net.



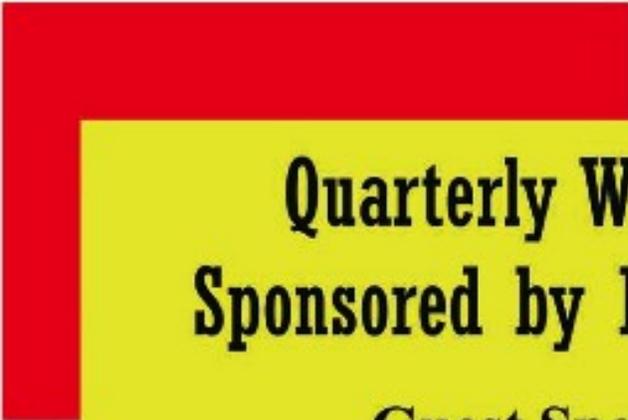
**“I AM RESPONSIBLE WHEN ANYONE,
ANYWHERE, REACHES OUT FOR HELP,
I WANT THE HAND OF A.A. ALWAYS TO BE THERE,
AND FOR THAT I AM RESPONSIBLE.”**

We have a lot of OPEN positions available!!!!
Please contact us to be a volunteer to carry the message of
Alcoholics Anonymous and help the alcoholic that still suffers
If you have any questions regarding Night Watch
please contact us .



Jessica S. 719-641-2385
Dana 719-491-0587

Thanks again, your service is appreciated!
email: nightwatch@coloradospringsaa.org



**Quarterly Workshop!!
Sponsored by District 7**

Guest Speaker:

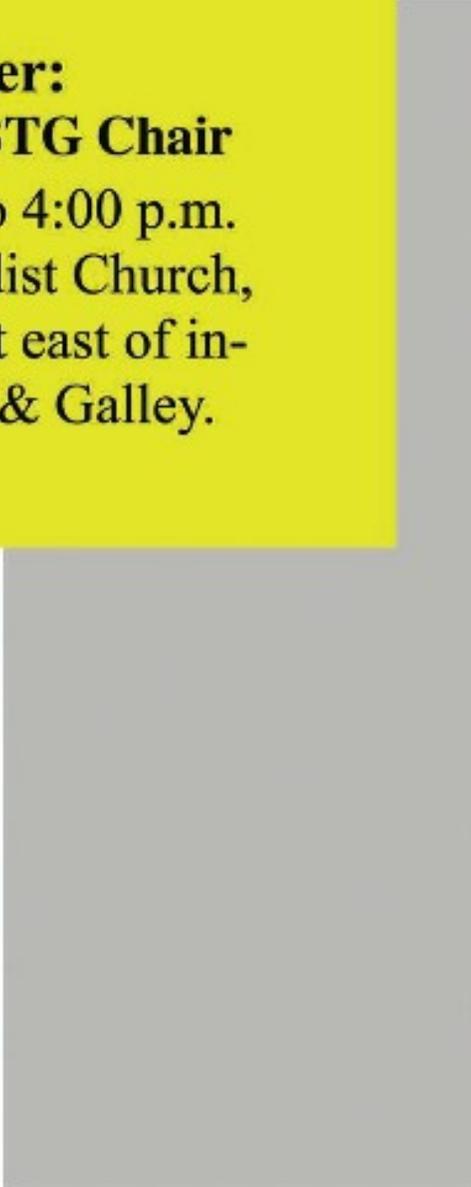
Frank P., Denver BTG Chair

Sept 25th from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.
Central United Methodist Church,
4373 Galley Road, just east of in-
tersection of Murray & Galley.

Pasta Dinner with Salad and Bread
Provided

Coffee and refreshments!!

**Come discover How Bridging
the Gap, Treatment Committee
and the 5th Tradition work hand
in hand!**



Meet the Editor of The Pint

The first sober person I ever met was a single mom from Narcotics Anonymous named Cecilia, AKA C-4. I answered an ad she had on Craigslist looking for a bassist to back her up for a talent show, which turned out to be my first 12-step program event. I don't remember much except some guy with piercings all over his face jammin' out bluegrass with a tall long-haired fellow wearing a feather in his hat (love ya Ned and Cameron!). Well, that and I just couldn't wrap my mind around the thought that people were hanging out, seeming to have a good time, and they were sober. Even being as stoned as I dared to get and still be able to play, the thought of that just made my skin crawl.

Cecilia never talked about being sober. She didn't look down on me or criticize me or ever say anything to insinuate there was anything wrong with me being a pretty big pot-head. The only comment she did make, after I'd gone out of my way to brag about how I'd quit drinking, 'cold-turkey', 10 years before, was 'Wow, I wish I could just smoke pot.' I can't help but laugh about that now, especially considering I rolled that little comment around in my mind for a week trying to make heads or tails of it before finally giving up and shrugging the whole thing off.

Another strange thing happened to me during that time. A couple weeks before the gig I had to pawn my bass to pay the rent and for some reason I mentioned to the guy working at the pawnshop that I needed to get it back out to play at an NA talent show. He smiled and whipped out his coin. I had no idea what a coin was back then, but when he told me he'd been sober for 8 years I said I wanted to quit smoking. It just came out. It was in no way premeditated, but when I said it, at that very instant I meant it with all of my heart. He reached out, took my hand and looked straight into my eyes. "I *know* you can do it" he said.

So to cut to the chase of what any of this has to do with Alcoholics Anonymous, I never wanted a drink so bad as the day I quit smoking weed. Except for the day after that. And then the day after that. In fact, it really just kept getting worse until I cracked open the Big Book I'd been given at my first meeting and read We Agnostics, and was somehow able to put together a few words to form my first actual prayer for help. I'd found my way to Walk the Talk from the guy at the pawn shop where I'd burst into tears on my first day of my sobriety. I was pawning 200 movies to pay the rent. They were the last things I ever lost in pawn.

When I think about my previous life I remember feeling desperate, tired, and hopeless. Not being able to meet my needs much less those of my children. Anger and bitterness surrounding any thoughts of who I wanted to be or things I wanted to do. Feeling ripped off and ruined and jaded beyond all reason. Knowing something was terribly wrong and concentrating my entire existence into acting like it wasn't. And scared out of my wits that it was everything. Every little tiny bit of all I'd come to be...

I've suffered greatly over the years because of drugs and alcohol, some things I'm not even sure how I made it through. But I can hardly remember a more difficult time in my life than the first 6 months of my sobriety. I went to meetings every day and all it did was rip things up worse inside for me. It hurt to see the answer and not be able to understand it or experience even a bit of it. Then finally one day I gathered up the nerve to talk to another woman in the program. And from the second I asked her for help, everything started to change. For me it seemed that once I made the choice to work through the steps with absolute honesty the answers to why I'd become so miserable started popping up all over the place. And once I could see why I was so distressed, I could finally start to do something about it.

(Meet the Editor continued)

Comparatively today my life is hardly recognizable. In fact, if someone had told me back then I could be *happily* working, paying my bills, going to school, raising two kids and 11 hermit crabs, dressing them in new Vans and Levis (the kids not the crabs), have money in the bank, be playing music for room-fulls of people, (and I could go on but I wont....) I would have kicked them in the teeth for all I was worth. Because to consider that I had *any* choice whatsoever about the miserable life I led would have shattered my reality that there was no hope, and I was simply a helpless victim in this unfair game called life.

I just thank the great force of the universe that eventually it *was* shattered, and nobody's teeth had to be knocked out for that to happen. As my friend Bill likes to say, I only had to change one thing, and that was everything. And for me all it took to start that change was to choose to ask for help. Of course I have to accept that help, and trust in someone besides my own great self, and sometimes do things that seem to go against every ounce of reasoning I can come up with. But I'm grateful to know the freedom and power that can be mine the second I'm ready to let go of my old self and step toward something new...

IN closing I'd like to thank all of you who are a part of Alcoholics Anonymous. Those who saw me come in and can attest to the remarkable changes in my life. Who hear me speak and reach out their hand to assure me this is real and I'm not just lucky or dreaming. Those who've been around and have yet to accept that change themselves, who help me know beyond a shadow of a doubt that I have to want this thing with all my heart and put everything I've got out on the table. Those I've seen come in and actually get to work and change before my eyes, like Pinocchio the puppet turning into a real live boy. Thank you all for this wonderful opportunity to give a solid chunk

back. IN all sincerity,

Amiee F. (the new editor of The Pint)



"He doesn't drink at all; he's got that stupid job back; he's paying off all his lousy debts; he goes to one or two revival meetings a week; he's back home with his wife and those brats; he's not only saving money, he's investing some; he's home every night at six, and he's cut out most of his old pals. NOW WHAT THE HELL KIND OF LIFE IS THAT!"



"Take me to your sponsor."

Step 9 : Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.

On the 9th Step. . . .

This one sounds simple. And, true, it does not involve some of the more complicated mental probing required by several of the other Steps. Having already made a list, in applying the 8th Step, "*of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all,*" the path is clearly defined with all stops plainly marked. All we have to do now is start doing. But the "doing" is not easy. It takes considerable courage to confess a wrong, even in private, and much more courage to confess it to the person against whom the wrong was committed.

The list very likely includes one or two previous employers whom we deceived in one way or another; friends whose friendship we abused; relatives whose sense of blood obligations we exploited; the mate whose trust, patience and persistent hopes we flaunted. To each we owe a debt, large or small, and merely saying "we're sorry" does not discharge the debt.

In fact, we actually do not have the right to the inward ointment that comes from saying we're sorry, unless we also have within us a sincere willingness to repay in full, whatever effort this may cost, and an equally sincere determination not to repeat the wrongs against anyone. Most of us, by the time we reach A.A., have been going around for a great many years saying "we're sorry" after each wrong and lightly thinking that these words made everything all right again. We've been annoyed if someone did not seem to accept our apologies as meaning much. How many can hark back and hear himself saying, petulantly, "What's the matter with him? I said I was sorry, didn't I?"

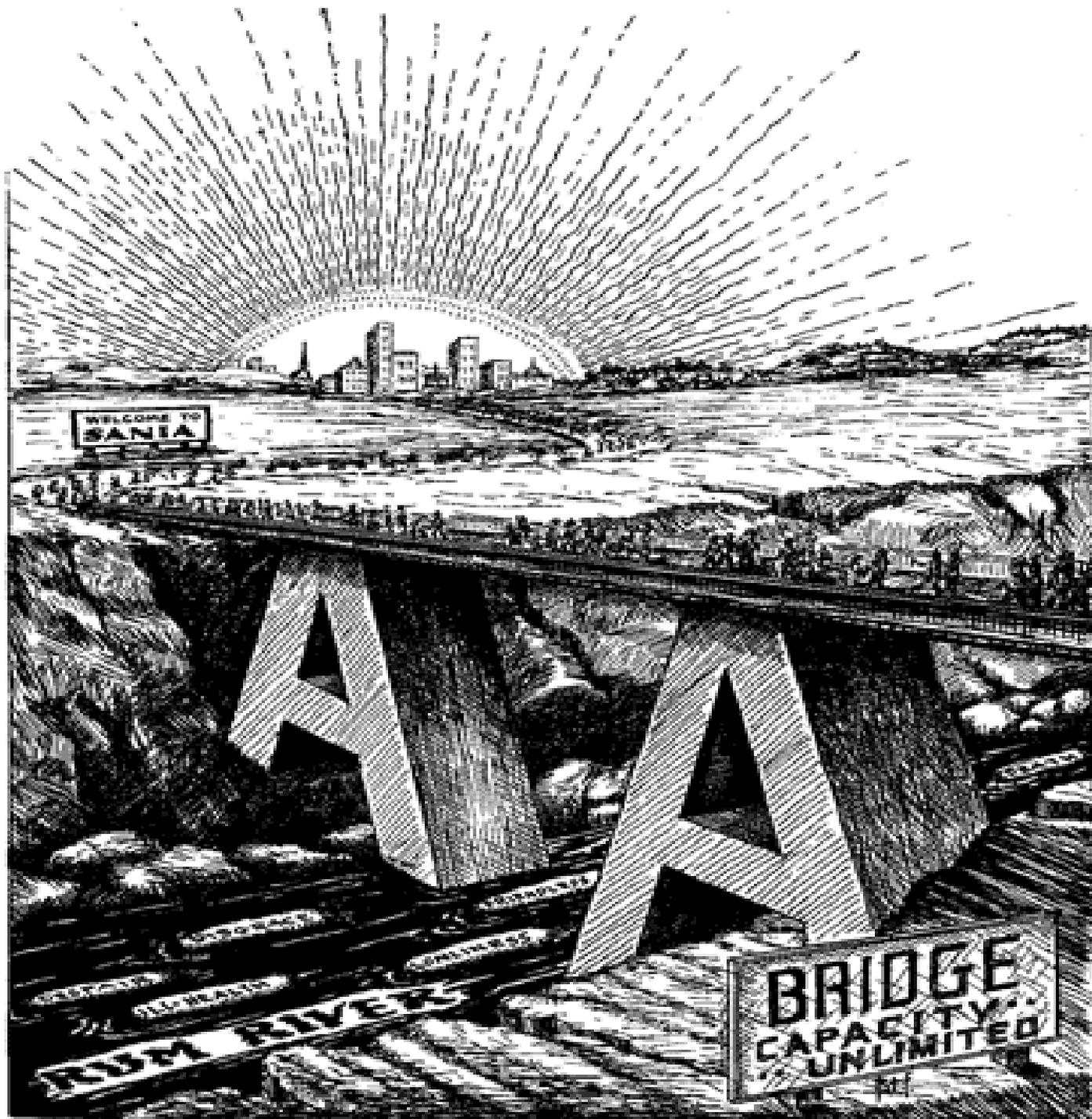
The 8th and the 9th Steps call for something more substantial, more tangible, more meaningful than words spoken casually. If it's money that is owed, it has to be paid back to the limit of ability to pay. If it's a debt of meanness, it has to be paid off with kindness. If it's neglect, as it is so often of one's family, then it can be balanced only by consideration and thoughtfulness. And let's not forget that debts of this kind--of neglect, thoughtlessness, mistreatment--have been piling up for years. They can't be paid off in two weeks.

The qualifying phrase, "*except when to do so would injure them or others,*" should prevent anyone from being righteously bullheaded, or stupidly "noble" about this. We are scarcely making amends if we dig something out of the past in which we had a part that will hurt someone else. The privilege of confession does not extend that far. A helpful guide in the application of the 9th Step is the reminder that by making amends, where we can, we are doing no one else a favor; a favor is done us if those we have wronged accept our offer.

Anonymous

Concept 9: Good service leaders, together with

sound and appropriate methods of choosing them, are at all levels indispensable for our future functioning and safety. The primary world service leadership once exercised by the founders of A.A. must be necessarily assumed by the Trustees of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous.



Tradition 9: A.A., as such, ought never be organized;

but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.

Do I still boss things in AA?

Do I resist formal aspects of AA because I fear them as authoritative?

Am I mature enough to understand and use all elements of the AA program - even if no one makes me do so - with a sense of personal responsibility?

Do I exercise patience and humility in any AA job I take?

Am I aware of all those to whom I am responsible in any AA job?

Why doesn't every AA group need a constitution and bylaws?

Have I learned to step out of an AA job gracefully - and profit thereby - when the time comes?

What has rotation to do with anonymity? With humility?



Promise 9: Fear of people and

economic security will leave us.

Mizpah, the Mighty

ONCE I was known as Mizpah, the mighty hunter, hunter of treasure. With effortless ease I could safari any group from Aspirin Alley to Belch Boulevard and never miss a bar. My prices were reasonable and well within range of all. For a beer I could guide you to the most productive sewer grating in the City. Ah! Many the dimes for a beer, quarter for a shot or a half buck for a larger slug was fished out, via a stick and a wad of gum, under my expert tutelage. For a good big snifter of wine I'd spend hours jostling the stool customers in the Mardi Gras Cafe with the sure knowledge that the third stool down from the juke box, as you staggered for the "gents," was the best spot to snag a quarter for a drink.

For a generous swig from a bourbon bottle I could lead you in my best jungle wiliness to any burlesque. Sitting next to you during the "tom-tom" excitement of the chief stripper, I would relieve you of the load you were carrying including the fuzz from your watch pocket. In fact, for a goodly snort of anything, although I never really acquired a good taste for kerosene, I could track down treasure anywhere.

Anywhere could be the Zoo (operettas presented twice weekly), in the subway as you dozed peacefully over your evening paper, at a Salvation Army meeting or even in a Turkish bath a naked man could produce treasure. And my treasure didn't have to wait for the government to take their cut. It could be converted into cash or the price of a drink, at Levi's Diamond and Watch Shop in a matter of minutes.

Mizpah, the mighty treasure hunter, is no more. He is nothing but a bitter memory in the past, gone but perhaps not forgotten. I have no fear of returning to that job in the future for tomorrow has not come. Today, a simple matter of twenty-four short hours, I am safe. In spite of having engaged in a profitable business venture where I prospered, and grew drunker, the end was abrupt. Too much prosperity, too many beers, too many wines, too many bourbons, and--oblivion.

And yet, in the end, I found the mightiest treasure of all. A treasure that can be given or loaned to dozens and dozens of men and women of my kind. And yet by the Grace of God and His will for me it can be mine forever. Safely locked away in my heart to remain until the day I die. I found AA, sobriety and peace of mind. Can you show me any treasure with a greater value?

Paul C. - Battle Creek, Michigan (formerly Mizpah)

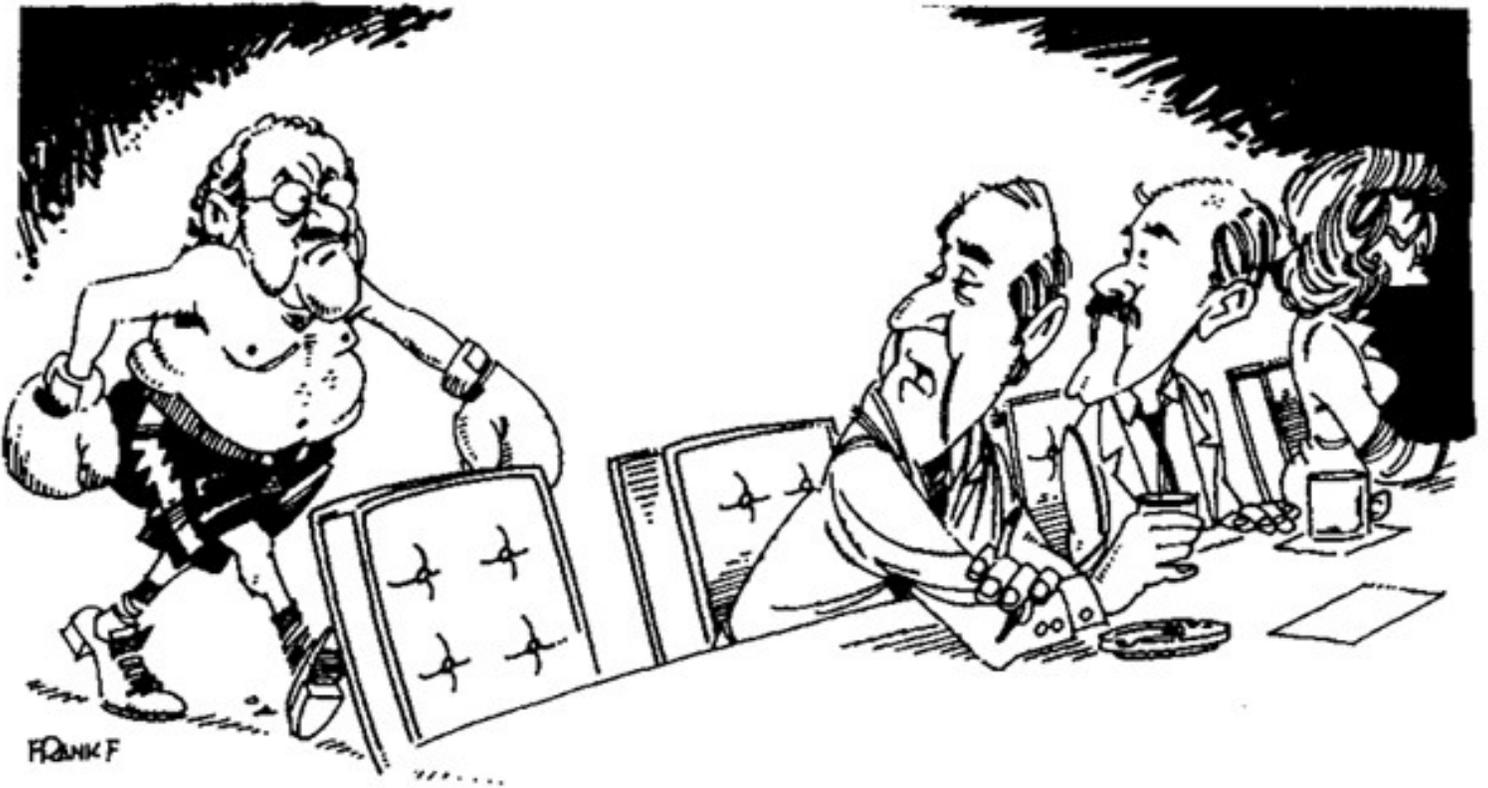
AA At A Glance

SEPTEMBER 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
						Cooperation w/ Professional Community Meeting 9am 7 E. Bijou
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Intergroup Board Meeting 6:30pm Service Office					Treatment Committee Meeting 4pm Pikes Perk
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Website Committee Meeting 2pm The Coffee Exchange		Intergroup Meeting 7pm Bethany Baptist	Public Information Meeting 6pm-3rd floor St. Francis			Corrections Meeting 9am Sacred Heart Room 6
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	Submit Milestones & Letters to the Editor to The Pint	District 7 Meeting 7:30pm Red Cloud Serenity Club				
26	27	28	29	30		

MONTHLY COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Board	1st Monday - 6:30pm - Service Office 1353 S. 8th St. Suite 106
Corrections	3rd Saturday - 9:00am - Sacred Heart 2021 W. Pikes Peak Ave. (room 6)
CPC	1st Saturday - 9:00am - Downtown Group 7 East Bijou St. (room 205)
District 7	3rd Tuesday - 7:30pm - Red Cloud Serenity Club 8020 W. Highway 24, Cascade
Intergroup	2nd Tuesday - 7pm - Bethany Lutheran 1401 S. 8th St. (downstairs)
Public Information	3rd Wednesday - 6pm - St. Francis Hospital (5th floor)
Treatment	2nd Saturday - 4pm - Pikes Perk 14 S. Tejon
Website	2nd Sunday - 2pm - The Coffee Exchange 526 S. Tejon



"Oh, oh! Here comes Simpson for the business meeting."

Why We Were Chosen

God in His wisdom selected this group of men and women to be purveyors of His goodness. In selecting them through whom to bring about this phenomenon He went not to the proud, the mighty, the famous or the brilliant. He went instead to the humble, to the sick, to the unfortunate. He went right to the drunkard, the so-called weakling of the world. Well might He have said the following words to us:

"Unto your weak and feeble hands I have entrusted a power beyond estimate. To you has been given that which has been denied the most learned of your fellows. Not to scientists or statesmen, not to wives or mothers, not even to my priests or ministers have I given this gift of healing other alcoholics which I entrust to you."

"It must be used unselfishly; it carries with it grave responsibility. No day can be too long; no demands upon your time can be too urgent; no case can be too pitiful; no task too hard; no effort too great. It must be used with tolerance for I have restricted its application to no race, no creed, and no denomination. Personal criticism you must expect; lack of appreciation will be common; ridicule will be your lot; your motives will be misjudged. You must be prepared for adversity, for what men call adversity is the ladder you must use to ascend the rungs toward spiritual perfection, and remember, in the exercise of this power I shall not exact from you beyond your capabilities."

"You are not selected because of exceptional talents, and be careful always, if success attends your efforts not to ascribe to personal superiority that to which you can lay claim only by virtue of my gift. If I had wanted learned men to accomplish this mission, this power would have been entrusted to the physician and scientist. If I had wanted eloquent men, there would have been many anxious for the assignment, for talk is the easiest used of all talents with which I have endowed mankind. If I had wanted scholarly men, the world is filled with better qualified men than you who would be available. You were selected because you have been the outcasts of the world and your long experience as drunkards has made or should make you humbly alert to the cries of distress that come from the lonely hearts of alcoholics everywhere."

"Keep ever in mind the admission you made on the day of your profession in AA -- namely that you are powerless and that it was only with your willingness to turn your life and will unto my keeping that relief came to you."

Anonymous

AA Thought for the Day

Inter Group: An alcoholic is a man with two feet firmly planted in mid-air.

Greenwich: A.A. is like an umbrella. It won't work unless you put it up.

White Plains: An alcoholic is a person who finds he has nothing in common with himself.

The Twelve Stepper: Liquor doesn't drown your troubles--it only irrigates them!

The Alky Argot: Burning the candle at both ends is a poor way of making ends meet.

The Central Bulletin: Did you ever notice how often a narrow mind and a wide mouth go together?

Beverly Hills CA: If you're not as close to God as you'd like to be--remember you are the one that moved.

Jefferson City Weekly: Never bear more than one kind of trouble at a time. Some bear three at once--all they have had--all they have now--and all they expect to have.

Anonymous: I don't know if I'm not drinking because I'm so happy or, so happy because I'm not drinking. I guess it doesn't matter just so long as you're happy.

J.H. Camel Club Chronicle: There is no surgery by which a new idea can be grafted to a closed mind. Nature couldn't make us perfect so she did the next best thing; she made us blind to our faults.

Jefferson City Weekly: Learn from the mistakes of others--you don't live long enough to make them all yourself.

Alky Alky: No man is ever entirely useless--he can always serve as a horrible example.

Litany: I am thankful to be freed from an insecure sense of personal inadequacy, but I am more thankful for a proper sense of self-reliance.

The Lifeline: Let's not spend all our spare time informing the newcomer--let's save a little of it to remind ourselves.

Anonymous: Doing nothing is the most tiresome job in the world because you can't stop and rest.

Anonymous: Criticism is something you can avoid by saying nothing, doing nothing, and being nothing.

Anonymous: The final test of will power is to see a friend with a black eye and not ask any fool questions.

Grape Vignettes: Quotes from our own scripture: What profiteth it a man if he has gained sobriety and lost his sense of humor?

The above quotes from July 1944 - May 1950 were chosen by the editor from 'Short Takes', a sub-category of the Digital Archives presented by the AA Grapevine on their website at aagrapevine.org.



1. "I had no reason to suspect that alcoholism would ever be a problem for me. I had a normal life as a child, although I was inclined to be reckless at times."