



# THE PIKES PEAK PINT

December 2020

A newsletter for the Pikes Peak Region of Alcoholics

**Please remember the Area Service Office is open only because of your continued financial support.**

**Without Group and Personal Contributions we are out of business and not available to carry on with our primary purpose .... To carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers inside and outside the rooms of Alcoholics Anonymous.**

Contributions can be made on the homepage of our CSASO website: [www.coloradospringsaa.org](http://www.coloradospringsaa.org) or mailed or dropped off at the Area Service Office located at 1353 S 8th Street Suite 209, Colorado Springs, CO 80905  
Or feel free to call the office and we can take your contributions over the telephone and charge manually whatever amount you wish to your debit or credit card. This option is available Tuesday—Fridays 9 a.m.—5 p.m.

## Christmas Lights Are Signals Along A.A. Road

The Red Lights of Christmas are glowing at us from friendly windows and outdoor Christmas trees. They're symbols of cheer—but they're lights of warning to us.

This is a season of "Peace on Earth and Good Will to Men." But, along with the Christmas rejoicing, this is also a season of emotional upset for many of us. For some years, Christmas thrilled me, yet upset me. Some of my most unexpected difficulties seem to have come on me at the Christmas season. Perhaps it was because I was off my guard. Perhaps I drifted along with the color and pageantry, and confused the Christian rejoicing with "just another opportunity for celebration"—alcoholic celebration.

So, as I reflect on the cheery, Red Lights of Christmas, I find myself taking heed of their clear warning. And I say to myself: "My Christmas present to me this year can be sobriety for the day."

The Christ Child came into a world of poverty and

struggle, but came into it to bring relief, salvation. His birth brought re-birth to the transgressors of the ages. It brought promise of life, of death, and of resurrection.

I feel that A.A. is truly in the spirit of Christmas — and follows the Christ Child. It comes to us as a cause for rejoicing that a means for salvation from our special chaos, our special poverty and struggle is at hand. It comes to many of us in our own "stables"—with the wise men of A.A. guided to us by a mysterious bright star. It brings to us a new life. One with firmness of purpose needed, but one with a program to make that firmness possible.

We have a great gift, direct from the hand of our maker, I fervently believe. The gift of *ourselves*—restored. The gift of life—under control and worth something to ourselves and others. The gift of being able to help ourselves through helping others. The gift of self-knowledge, through frank appraisal. The gift of tolerance for others.

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Yes, and I see them, the Red Lights of Christmas are signal lights, warning me to be on guard against complacency, reminding me that each day needs attention, that the gifts which have been so freely given can be as freely thrown away through complacency or thoughtlessness.

And, as I read their warning, I also read their message of good cheer, of blessing, of rejoicing. And I give thanks that this day has been a true gift, and pray that tomorrow, and all tomorrows, I may again receive the gift, and receive it well.

M.F. Chicago, IL  
December 1947 Grapevine



## **Saddest Christmas Ever**

No job, no wife, no driver's license or money. Here he was 30 days sober, in the cold, and now the AA meeting door was locked.

I was just over the 30-day mark in my journey into sobriety. I'd been going to two meetings a day, sometimes three. I wanted to not drink, but I also wanted what I saw in that first meeting: People were happy and openly laughed with each other. They admitted that they were alcoholics and were not at all sad about it. It was no big deal, or so it seemed, to them.

My first AA meeting was right before Thanksgiving, my favorite holiday. I began my sobriety in Ithaca, New York, where there's a community center that hosts AA meetings three to four times a day. I pretty much would ride my bike into town and stay all day. I also attended an outpatient program that went along with my DWI arrest. I wanted to get my license back as I did not want to have to ride a bike everywhere. Winter in Ithaca is rally harsh, not biking weather. I became acutely aware that driving was a

privilege that I'd have to earn back.

I also experienced a yearning for the Ninth Step Promises. They were the only thing that resonated with me at that first meeting. The prospect of the Promises continued to power me forward at every meeting. I wanted what the reading promised.

It was now Christmas morning. My usual meetings were not going to be held that day. My routine had been to go to both a morning meeting and an afternoon meeting. That day, I decided to go to a meeting I hadn't attended before.

It was held in the chapel on the Cornell University campus. I was a little early. The door was locked. I stood outside waiting. It was really cold. Self-pity took over: I had no job; my retirement money was running out; I was divorced; and my life had been ruined. Also, my fancy resume no longer made my phone ring, and I was all alone and hopeless. A bad case of "What's the use?" crept over me. I felt like just quitting everything and getting drunk. I started crying and that turned into sobbing.

It was now just before 9:00 a.m. and no one was at the chapel yet. I worried that this meeting wasn't going to take place. Where else could I go? As I cried, I got back on my bike. Then all of a sudden, a man showed up and ran quickly up the steps to the chapel. He unlocked the door and turned to me, welcoming me in. I walked in, and then another man followed me.

Turns out the two men were home group members of this meeting. One man was the secretary and the other just wanted to come to a meeting. They both were younger than me, with families at home, and left them to open up the AA meeting on this Christmas morning.

I stopped crying, explaining as best I could what I was feeling. They told me I was in the right place, that I was going to be OK. They said it would be a long time before I forgot this Christmas, if ever.

That was 15 years ago. They were right. I'd say that meeting at the chapel on that very cold day has, by far, been one of the most important meetings of my sobriety. Only once since have I shown up to a meeting and found no one else there. I thank God those two men showed up that Christmas morning.

Vance O. Marion, NY  
Grapevine



## December

### Easy Does It Group

Bill 1 year  
Britt 4 years  
Dave C. 4 years  
Mark K 21 years  
Wandaleen 28 years  
Carol B. 40 Years

### New Beginners Group

Ginny M-R 26 years  
Cora 18 years  
Mike H 4 years

### The Serenity Riders

Jessica S 2 years  
Laura S 34 years  
Monica S 32 years  
Jeff S 19 years  
Todd B 5 years  
Zach A 23 years  
Kevin R 20 years  
Teresa B 7 years

### New Beginners

Andy S. 11/20/1991  
David E. 11/10/2010  
Karen U. 11/11/2004

## News For You

The Area Service Office is open and masks must be worn while in the office. Please come visit us at 1353 S. 8th Street, Suite 209 Tuesday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Service Office will be closed Christmas Day.

Alcothon is cancelled due to COVID restrictions.

The December Intergroup meeting is scheduled for December 8, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. and held via Zoom. Meeting ID: 895 839 8739 Passcode: 040352

There are 27 groups registered with ASO. Is your group registered? If not, please call the office (719) 573-5020 or email [www.serviceoffice@coloradospringsaa.org](mailto:www.serviceoffice@coloradospringsaa.org) to be registered so your group is part of Intergroup.

## IMPORTANT COURTESY REMINDER

Please email your group's celebrations to [pint@coloradospringsaa.org](mailto:pint@coloradospringsaa.org)

1) ALL MEETINGS REQUIRE MASKS

2) We are classified as Personal Service and under the Code Red we are required to operate at 25% of the posted occupancy limit, not to exceed 25 people, whichever is less, per room.



This month's  
"Pint Piece"  
for your  
personal reflection...

*Live and Let Live*

*Easy Does It*

*First Things First*

As I was sitting at a meeting the other evening and a lady was speaking, she mentioned the three slogans: Live and Let Live, Easy Does It, and First Things First; and that she was having trouble with Easy Does It.

As she mentioned these slogans, I looked up at the wall where they were displayed. All I could see because of a lady's head in front of me was the last word in each slogan:

"Live...It...First"

The thought came to me then that the secret of getting or living these three slogans is to live the Twelve Steps first.

Bill I. Melrose, Massachusetts

8.1.1953

# STEP 12

“Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to other alcoholics and to practice these principles in all our affairs” *with God, as we*

## Tradition 12

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



## Tradition 12 Checkoff List

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

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 or agree with 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, do I imply that membership requirements go beyond the desire to stay sober?
4. Have I a personal responsibility to help an AA group fulfill its primary purpose? What is my part?
5. Do I do all I can to support AA financially?
6. 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 attractive so that other drunks might want it?
7. What does anonymity mean to me?
8. In light of increased awareness of alcoholism and AA's program of recovery among the general public, why is the principle of anonymity still important?
9. Am I mindful to respect the anonymity of other AA members who may work in my place of employment or my industry? How about AA members who live in my area or neighborhood?
10. What does “principles before personalities” mean to me?

## Concept 12

**The Conference shall observe the spirit of 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 any 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.**

- How do we guard against becoming a “seat of perilous wealth or power”?
- How do we practice prudent use of our Seventh Tradition contributions and literature revenue?
- Do we insure the spiritual liberties of all A.A. members by not placing any member in the position of absolute authority over others?
- Do we try to reach important decisions by thorough discussion, vote and, where possible, substantial unanimity?
- Do we always try to treat each other with mutual respect and love?

## LOCAL SERVICE OFFICE

Open: Tuesday - Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Closed: Saturday - Monday

1353 South 8th Street, Suite 209

Colorado Springs, CO 80905

719.573.5020

Email: [serviceoffice@coloradospringsaa.org](mailto:serviceoffice@coloradospringsaa.org)

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

## Consider JOINING A COMMITTEE MEETING!

These are suspended until further notice.

BRIDGING THE GAP

PIKES PEAK PINT

CORRECTIONS

PI (PUBLIC INFORMATION)

CPC (Cooperation with the  
Professional Community)

PROGRAMS

NIGHTWATCH

DISTRICT 7

## WHERE TO SEND CONTRIBUTIONS

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

How much did *YOU*  
spend on a drink?

*Please help others.....*

Consider putting \$2 in a jar/cup/basket  
each time you log onto a Zoom Meeting.

Then consider splitting the money  
accumulated and give 1/2 to your group  
when they begin meeting again, and 1/2 to  
your Service Office.

Contribute at  
[coloradospringsaa.org](http://coloradospringsaa.org)

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N
1	Group 2020-2021	Fiscal YTD	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
2	12 Steps from the Mor	\$330	\$116				214							
3	164 Group	\$413			\$103			160		\$150				
4	A Common Solution	\$150		\$150										
5	APEX	\$276			\$91				\$185					
6	Back to Basics	\$799	\$116			\$199	56	155	\$158	\$115				
7	Beacon Light	\$200								\$200				
8	Big Book Action	\$200							\$200					
9	Black Forest Group	\$466	\$205			\$131			\$130					
10	Broadmoor Step	\$67					\$67							
11	But For the Grace of Gc	\$75						\$75						
12	Clean Air	\$125						\$125						
13	District 7	\$4,662							\$4,662					
14	Don't Worry Be Happy	\$762	\$60			\$96	\$151	\$195	\$146	\$114				
15	Downtown Group	\$1,000							\$1,000					
16	Easy Does It	\$1,032	\$117				\$422			\$493				
17	Friday Night Live	\$300	\$50			\$250								
18	Friday Women's	\$826		\$80		\$20	\$479	\$20		\$227				
19	Happy Destiny	\$150							\$150					
20	Happy Heathens	\$86				\$86.00								
21	High Nooners	\$100			\$100									
22	H.O.W.	\$100	\$100											
23	Into Action	\$457	\$100			\$149	\$208							
24	Keytone to Recovery	\$290			\$130			\$160						
25	Language of the Heart	\$61					\$14	31	\$16					
26	Let Go Let God	\$150			\$75				\$75					
27	Little Log Cabin	\$320	\$320											
28	Living Sober South	\$32		\$32.00										
29	M.A.G.	\$550				\$300			\$250					
30	Men's Anonymous	\$600					\$400		\$200					
31	Monday Path Finders	\$199						199						
32	New Beginner's	\$540		\$185.00				355						
33	New Woman	\$479		\$144			\$120			\$215				
34	Northwester's	\$192		\$43			\$120		\$29					
35	Off the Wall	\$34			\$5			29						
36	Old North End	\$83				\$83								
37	One Day At A Time	\$130				\$130								
38	Pre-Dawn	\$1,000							\$1,000					
39	Recovery In Action	\$205	\$168					37						
40	Recovery Systems	\$100	\$100											
41	Saturday Early Morning	\$253					\$253							
42	Serenity Hour	\$16		\$16										
43	Serenity Riders	\$1,142				\$646		20		\$476				
44	Steel Magnolias	\$228		\$106					\$122					
45	Sought Thru Prayer	\$16					16							
46	Sunlight of the Spirit	\$351			\$114					\$237				
47	Talking Circles	\$25				\$25								
48	Thursday Night Men's	\$2,578	\$1,834	\$40				204		\$500				
49	Walk the Talk	\$7,007	\$1,607	\$425	\$425	\$2,850	\$425	\$425		\$850				
50	We Are Here	\$113	\$45						\$68					
51	We Are Not Saints	\$1,891	\$748			\$573			\$570					
52	WOW	\$100								\$100				
53	WP Book Study	\$638		\$176			397			\$65				
54	WP Women's Step Stud	\$20					20							
55	WP Thursday Noon	\$19	\$19											
56	WP Tuesday Women's	\$402		\$108			\$154			\$140				
57	<b>Monthly Totals</b>	\$32,340	\$5,705	1505	1043	5538	3516	2190	8961	3882	0	0	0	0

GROUP ONTRIBUTIONS

## Merry Christmas!

Twas the Night Before Christmas, we were all in the club,  
Providing a meeting, instead of a pub;  
The ashtrays were clean and the coffee was made,  
The Big Books were out, and we had all prayed.



When out in the lot, there arose such a clatter,  
We jumped from the table to see what was the matter.  
The Chair with his Big Book, and I with my smokes,  
Headed outside and found these two blokes.

They came on inside, and they sat at the table,  
And said that they'd chair, as soon as they're able.  
"To start with" they said, "its more than not drinking,  
it's doing your best to fix your wrong thinking."

"Think, Think, Think!" and those slogans we used,  
Help keep the newcomer from getting confused.  
"Step one is a start," they said we should know,  
"And after step two, we'll be all aglow".

"We make a decision when we get to step three;  
Step four is real tough, we all could agree.  
Step five is the one where we let someone else know  
Step six we are ready, and on step seven let go."

"We get to step eight, and we make our long list  
And then with step nine, we have to persist.  
After step nine some promises ring true  
We didn't just get that out of the blue."

"Step ten makes assumptions, says \*when\* we are wrong,  
We make amends promptly, we don't take too long.  
Step eleven keeps us centered on a spiritual quest  
Step twelve shows us how to each day be our best."

These chaps they imparted holiday cheer  
Reminding us all of the things we hold dear.  
They put on their coats and got ready to leave  
A pretty good end, for this Christmas Eve.

As to their names we only could guess  
But I'm pretty darn sure it was Bill and Bob S.  
The men hopped into a red '35 Ford,  
And as they pulled out, one of them roared;  
"We leave this message, for our sisters and brothers;  
Trust God, clean house, be of service to others.  
For all of you people, we wanted to say:  
Have a nice holiday and don't drink, just for today."

