

# A Newsletter for the Pikes Peak Region of Alcoholics Anonymous

October 2023

## The Pikes Peak Pint



### Inside September's Pint:

- *My Name is Dan M....* an A.A. member's story.
- *Archives Corner*
- **Service Opportunities highlighted in Yellow**

### SERVICE OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday - Friday 10am - 2pm

Area Service Office Manager: Jeanette

**All service office volunteer positions are full. We would like to expand our hours to include one late day and Saturdays. If you are interested in one of these time please call.**

A minimum of 6 months of sobriety is suggested.

For more information contact  
(719) 573-5020 or email: [serviceoffice@coloradospringsaa.org](mailto:serviceoffice@coloradospringsaa.org)

# Intergroup Updates

- **Programs Chair Appointment: Kimberly H.**

- Volunteers needed! Text Kimberly H. 719-492-1238 for information

- 2023 Program Events theme: Colorful Sobriety in Colorful Colorado

- **Treasurer** – New Fiscal Year beginning April 1.

- Income for July \$4585.00 | Expenses \$4316.00

- Group Contributions: \$2055.00

- **Nightwatch:** \_\_\_\_ calls for August 41 Calls

- Service office voice calls are routed to trusted servants, answering questions about A.A., meetings, and 12-step call connection for alcoholics. Contact Service Office for more information.

- **Archives** Workdays usually occur on Saturdays following Intergroup meetings at Service Office @ 9am. **Volunteers welcome**. Received AA cassette tapes, no more books are needed. Old Box 4-5-9s will be perused... any mention of Colorado AA will be kept.

- **Pint** is always looking for 800-word experiences of AA members. Steps, Traditions, principles, first 30 days... **share an experience!** Email to [pint@coloradospringsaa.org](mailto:pint@coloradospringsaa.org) Also need more group member anniversaries!

- **Service Office:** The Service Office was contacted by the Al-Anon Service Center. There was some discussion about combining the two operations into one location. The Al-Anon Service Center was able to negotiate a new lease and will be staying where they are. . Call the Service Office for more info: (719) 573-5020. Service Office has seen 60 walk-in customers and fielded 75 calls for August.



- Have a smartphone? Download the free [Meeting Guide!](#) [Google Play](#) or [Apple App Store](#)

Meeting Guide syncs with area, district, intergroup/central offices and international general service office websites, relaying meeting information from more than 400 A.A. service entities directly to the app. Over 100,000 weekly meetings are currently listed, and the information is refreshed twice daily.” <https://www.aa.org/meeting-guide-app>

We are not Saints

Mireille D, 9-4-83. 40 years

New woman group

Leigh T. 18 years

Cara A. 3 years

High Noon:

Yolanda H. 39 years

Sanay G. 9 years

Richard 36 years

Jim N. 30 years

Walk the Talk:

Daniel 9-20

Dawn D. 9-21-03

Jody 9-22-89

Cindy 9-19-13

Bob O. 9-22-11

Ray L. 9-28-11

Clark W. 9-1-85

Damian 9-25-21

Daniel 9-22-91

Laura 9-10-21

Larry Y. 9-20-98

Dan T. 9-11-21

Friday Womens:

Sanay M. 9 years

Elizabeth W. 2 years

Lynn E. 1 year

Kathy S. 3 years

Send your and/or group's sobriety birthdays to:

[pint@coloradospringsaa.org](mailto:pint@coloradospringsaa.org)

## Step 9

“Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.”

Reprinted from *Alcoholics Anonymous*, page 58, with the permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.

## Tradition 8

“A.A., as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.”

### Tradition 8 Checklist:

1. Do I try to “boss” things in AA?
2. Do I ever resist formal aspects of AA because I see them as authoritative?
3. Do I try to understand and use all elements of the AA program—even if no one makes me do so—with a sense of personal responsibility?
4. Do I exercise patience and humility in any AA job I take?
5. Am I aware of all those to whom I am responsible in any AA job?
6. Why doesn't every AA group need a constitution and bylaws?
7. Have I learned to step out of an AA job gracefully—and profit thereby—when the time comes?
8. What has rotation to do with anonymity? With humility?

Copyright © aa.org Traditions Checklist from the A.A. Grapevine [The Traditions Checklist](#)

## Concept 8

IX. Good service leadership at all levels is indispensable for our future functioning and safety. Primary world service leadership, once exercised by the founders, must necessarily be assumed by the trustees.

Reprinted from *A.A. Service Manual, 2018-2020 Edition, The Twelve Concepts (Short Form) pp IV*, with the permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.

## **Hi My name is Dan M. and I am an alcoholic.**

I have been asked to write my story from a friend of mine. I have to say that I am honored and humbled to be asked to write something that means so much to me. To be able to share a piece of me with you.

I was born in Philadelphia in 1979, was raised in an Irish Catholic family. I am the youngest of four, I have an older sister and older twin brothers. My father was a Philly cop and my mother was a RN for Temple University hospital. Life seemed pretty normal until the Devil knocked on my door on January 21st 1989. My brother Mike walked into a neighbors home and was shot in the face with a 357 magnum. As a young child, I heard my father scream Michael and then silence. I heard the sirens, but did not quite understand. At the time I had a broken ankle, and so alone I hopped up the basement stairs, limped around the corner only to hear and see things a nine year old should have never seen or heard. I can remember the night like it was yesterday. My neighbor scooped me up (an alcoholic), and took me to his home where I sat for what seemed like years in a child's mind. As I said the Devil knocked on my door, unfortunately for me shortly after the Devil enter into my home and stole my childhood. I was terrified and I understood the definition of the word "Fear". Alcoholism was a part of my life before I picked up my first drink, that came in the summer between 8th and 9th grade. Mad Dog 2020!! I remember the minute it went down my throat the fear was gone. I have arrived, and everyone was gonna know it. It showed quickly because the fear turned into rage. I became a raging alcoholic pretty quick and nothing was gonna stand in my way. My father had to call

the cops on me to wrestle me down. You see, being a cops son, I did what I want, but when a cop calls the cops on his own son, you are going to pay a price. With the alcohol came the drugs, the raves, the blackouts and the pain.

I managed to get sober at 19. Don't ask me how, but I stayed sober for seven years. Moved to Colorado in 2000 with five other men (two being my brothers), and made it out of Philly. Met my now ex-wife, had two kids, and starting chasing the dollar. You know the story, keeping up with the Jone's, filling my soul with anything but God, for I hated Him because of my childhood. In 2006, I went to the dentist for a simple root canal. He prescribed me twenty painkillers. I had no idea what an opiate high was, well I was soon gonna find out that it took my life. I had no defense against the first drink. I was powerless, and now I was also powerless over opiates. In 2006 the pill mill doctors were everywhere. In 2008 the Government shut the pill mills down and I was cut off. November 2008 I put my first needle in my body. Somehow I became a business agent for the International Brotherhood of Teamsters. I received a DUI in 2016, was locked up in 2017, was locked up in 2022, was fired as a business agent in 2022, was locked up in 2023. I got separated with my ex-wife in April 2022 and I just could not handle it. I took my daughter to rehab and I was free to do what I wanted to do. Three weeks before I entered Mountain Springs Recovery I sold my car for alcohol and dope, the eviction notice was on my door. I was so happy as I waited for my Uber. Showed up at the liquor store then off to the dope house. I would have done anything to bury my pain. On fathers day my daughter walked in, nobody was talking to me. I was alone and wanted to die. I asked my 19 year old for help, her being off dope for a

year simply said, "it's about time dad".

The next day I was in rehab. June 19th my life ended, but my life also finally began. Tuesday, my brother-in-law called me and asked me when the outside meeting was coming in, I told him Wednesday. He told me, Danny if you don't get a sponsor, then don't ever call me again. My brother-in-law is my inspiration. He walked out of prison with a trash bag 15 years ago and now he is sober, he is my sisters husband, he adopted all of my sisters kids and my sister is safe and happy. So on Wednesday, I walked into the meeting, shaking and detoxing and scared. I stayed after the meeting and asked this man to sponsor me, he said yes and to call him. I finally took one suggestion to heart and called him. I was terrified!!

When the cobwebs shook loose, we got busy. You see I was never doing the steps, surrender to a God that I hated, NO WAY. I was out of options. My sponsor told me before step three you need to have a talk with God, ask him the questions you need to ask him. Well I had questions alright, and I asked Him all of them. Eventually I had no more questions, I was forced to sit there, I had nowhere to run, and I could not hide anymore. My God came to me that night, It was fierce, powerful. I could hear the ripples in the pond, the stars were eye level, I could smell the grass moving in the wind, everything was completely silent and I felt a man sitting next to me. I knew there was more work to be done. I wrote a forth step and then it was time for the dreaded fifth step. I was taking a few of my demons to the grave with me. Well I made a decision to turn my will over to God, so I made that agreement. So I let my sponsor have it, ALL OF IT. I did not want it anymore. I walked out on the balcony when were done and the heavens split. My God flowed through



my veins, I could feel the clouds kissing my nose as I took a sigh of relief. The birds sung songs of joy next to my ears, I could see angels flying in the sky above me, I felt light, like I was not on this earth anymore and for the first time I walked through an archway a free man. I finally understood the 4th dimension. I read my 6th step took my 7th step, wrote my amends and starting making them. I actually had the privilege to take another man through the steps. I started to go to school for a Certified Addiction Councilor. I quit my old job and I am now working at a rehab. I have entered a state of peace today, where I sit calmly in meditation with my God. I find myself spacing out in the clouds often and I am blessed to be alive today. I have forgiven and I am at peace with childhood. I know my experience will help someone. I want to be on the firing lines of Alcohol and Addiction for the rest of my life. I don't wanna ever leave this world for I know I have suffered enough. You see I believe I have slow danced with the Devil. I am here to tell you I am now slow dancing with my God. God bless everyone reading this and thank you all for being a part of my recovery journey.

# **AA Group Announcements!**

**The Downtown Group** @ 210 North Corona Street has space if a meeting or a group is looking to gather somewhere. Contact John O. 719-291-3240 for further information.

**Apex Group** needs support! Apex Group meets Fridays at 6pm, at the Sacred Heart Church in room 10. (2021 W. Pikes Peak Avenue).

**We have a meeting space available for any 12 step group that needs it or is starting up.**

Would it be possible for you to share this in your network or connect me with someone who can?

--

Derf Bergman  
Pastor, Calvary United Methodist Church  
4210 Austin Bluffs Parkway  
Colorado Springs, CO 80918 (church mailing address)

5370 Artistic Circle

Contact the service office for information.

Do you have an experience to share, as it relates to alcoholism and the solution we share?

Submit your writing (or recording!) to [pint@coloradospringsaa.org](mailto:pint@coloradospringsaa.org) to be published in this space.

You can remain anonymous!

## Archives Corner

From the Area Service Office (ASO) Archives:

The Archives has many formats and editions of our basic text *Alcoholics Anonymous*. No, ASO does not have a 1<sup>st</sup> edition released April 1939. First edition printings go for thousands of dollars on the Internet. ASO does have copies of the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition including a first printing. The 2<sup>nd</sup> edition was released at the International Convention at St. Louis July 1955. We have many copies of the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition (released April 1976) and the current edition (4<sup>th</sup>) which was released in 2001. Word has it that stories for a 5<sup>th</sup> edition are being solicited.

ASO has an autographed 3<sup>rd</sup> edition by Dr. Bob's son, Smitty, donated to ASO by Sharon P. June 2010. We have Big Books signed by many people with and without inscriptions. And some signed in memory of folks who died of our disease. We have hardbound and softbound, large print and pocket editions. Study editions, facsimiles of the 1<sup>st</sup> edition, a fourth edition on cassette tapes (14 tapes in all). Pristine Big Books and heavily marked editions. I remember searchable DVD Big Books and bootleg copies on floppies. Nowadays it's easy to find searchable Big Books on the Internet.

Other than forewords to new editions, correcting typos, and changing stories, *Alcoholics Anonymous* has stayed the same. Stories from the first three editions that are not included in the 4<sup>th</sup> edition were printed by AA World Services and released January 2003 entitled *Experience, Strength and Hope*.

What Big Books do you have in your library?

## **Does your group have important announcements?**

Send announcements, flyers, and information to:

[pint@coloradospringsaa.org](mailto:pint@coloradospringsaa.org)

To subscribe, visit <https://www.coloradospringsaa.org/news-events/news/>

The Pint is formatted following the monthly Intergroup Meeting that meets on the second Tuesday of each month. Send your information by the end of the day, second Wednesday of each month, to be included in the following print.

# Make plans to attend the 2025 A.A. International Convention scheduled in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

See video at <https://www.aa.org/international-convention>



Albert Normandin / Destination Vancouver

## **Other A.A. Announcements ...**

- 2023 Southwest Regional Forum in El Paso, TX **September 29 - October 1**
- 2025 **International AA Conference** planned for British Columbia

See related flyers at the end of this newsletter

## Join an Intergroup or District Committee!

**Archives**, Chair: Doug L. For info on Archives workdays at ASO, please email:  
[archives@coloradospringsaa.org](mailto:archives@coloradospringsaa.org)

**Nightwatch**, Chair: Stephanie - Contact Area Service Office for more info 719-573-5020  
or [nightwatch@coloradospringsaa.org](mailto:nightwatch@coloradospringsaa.org)

**Pint**, Chair: Mike H. - Collect local AA stories and announcements and send to [pint@coloradospringsaa.org](mailto:pint@coloradospringsaa.org)

**Programs**, Chair: Kimberly H. Contact Area Service Office for more info 719-573-5020

District

**CPC (Cooperation with the Professional Community)**, Chair: Derek G. Meets  
4th Sunday of the month, 3:30pm, at Walk the Talk (2334 Vickers Drive)

**Corrections**, Chair: David P.  
Meets 4th Saturday of every month at 10am, @ Area Service Office (1353 S 8th St)

**PI (Public Information)**, Chair: Jacque I.  
Meets 3rd Saturday of the month, 2:30pm, @ Area Service Office (1353 S 8th St)

**Treatment & Bridging the Gap**, Chair: Clint  
Meets monthly, 2nd Wednesday @ 5:30 PM online. Contact [treatment@coloradospringsaa.org](mailto:treatment@coloradospringsaa.org)  
for questions or Zoom meeting details.

## Supporting A.A.'s services

While contributions cover each group's rent and other expenses, the Seventh Tradition is essential to all areas of A.A. service. It is both a privilege and a responsibility for groups and members to ensure that not only their group, but also their intergroup/central office, local services, district, area, and the General Service Office remain self-supporting. The General Service Conference suggests that individual groups, through an informed group conscience, adopt a specific contribution plan tailored to meet the group's financial situation. Once the group's expenses have been taken care of the group may decide to further carry the message by sending money to the following A.A. service entities.

- The local district, which communicates directly with the groups, providing the district group conscience for the area assemblies, and serving as a link between the area delegates and the G.S.R.s.
- The area committee, which coordinates vital A.A. activities over a broad geographic area; sends a delegate to the annual General Service Conference; holds area assemblies to determine the needs of the Fellowship; and provides information at all levels of service.
- The local intergroup or central office, which may provide phone service for Twelfth Step calls and other inquiries; coordinates group activities; and facilitates A.A. literature sales, institutions work, public information, and cooperation with the professional community activities.
- A.A.'s General Service Office, which functions as a storehouse of A.A. information, communicating with members and groups around the world; publishes A.A.'s literature; and supplies information and experience to professionals and others interested

<https://www.aa.org/aa-contributions-self-support> in A.A

### Where to Send Contributions:

**\*\* Please include Group Name and Group Number on check, money order, or App transaction\*\***

#### Area Service Office

Payable to : Colorado Springs Area Service Office  
1353 S. 8th Street, STE 209  
Colorado Springs, CO 80905

#### District 7

Payable to: District 7  
PO Box 26252  
Colorado Springs, CO 80936

#### Area 10

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

#### General Service Office (UPDATE)

Payable to: GSO  
Post Office Box 2407  
James A Farley Station  
New York, NY 10116-2407

Colorado Springs Intergroup 2023 Programs Committee Presents



## **VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED!**

Contact Kimberly H. (719-492-1238, text only) or Area Service Office (719-573-5020)

- **Founders' Day Picnic**
- **Long Timers' Luncheon**
- **Gratitude Dinner**
- **2023-2024 Alcathon**

## **Share how sobriety in Colorado looks for you!**

Examples: pictures, posters, artwork, or a visual representation of sober living in Colorado (any equipment or symbol that represents accomplishments, creativity, or activity that you enjoy in your sobriety in our beautiful state).





# DISTRICT 7 PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE

PUBLIC INFORMATION (P.I.) IN ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS MEANS CARRYING THE MESSAGE OF RECOVERY TO THE STILL-SUFFERING ALCOHOLIC BY INFORMING THE GENERAL PUBLIC ABOUT THE A.A. PROGRAM.

**CONTACT CHAIRPERSON: JACQUI I.  
PI@COLORADOSPRINGSAA.ORG**

**MEETS AT 2:30  
ON THE 3RD  
SATURDAY OF  
EACH MONTH**

**AREA SERVICE OFFICE  
1353 S. 8TH ST, STE 209  
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80905**

COLORADO SPRINGS INTERGROUP EVENT 2023

COME CELEBRATE! MILESTONES IN  
RECOVERY! AND SUPPORT OUR FRIENDS  
WITH 18+ YEARS OF SOBRIETY!

**LongTimer's  
Luncheon  
Saturday,  
Sept. 9th**



Sacred Heart Church  
Gymnasium 2021 W Pikes Peak Ave.  
Lunch @ Noon  
Speaker @ 1 p.m. ~ Laura S "Party Sober"

Everyone is Welcome

Everyone is Welcome

Everyone is Welcome

\$10.00 Suggested Contribution  
18+ Years Sobriety Lunch is Free  
Bring a Dessert to Share

Volunteers for 2-hour commitment day of event needed.

Please Contact by text Kimberly 719-492-1238  
or call Area Service Office 719-573-5020

**The 2023 National AA Technology Workshop  
In person in Winchester, VA**

**Online via Zoom**

**September 8 - 10, 2023**

**This year's theme: "Solving, Sharing, and Scaling Solutions"**



*What type of members are attending? Is it all about technology? I'm not a geek, but I'm on my Intergroup's website committee.*

**Answer:**

Attendees run the gamut of AA experience in not only technology, but in leadership at all levels. We have GSRs, DCMs, Area officers, Intergroup and Central Office workers and just plain old AA members who wish to know more about technology perspectives and using technology to help carry the message.

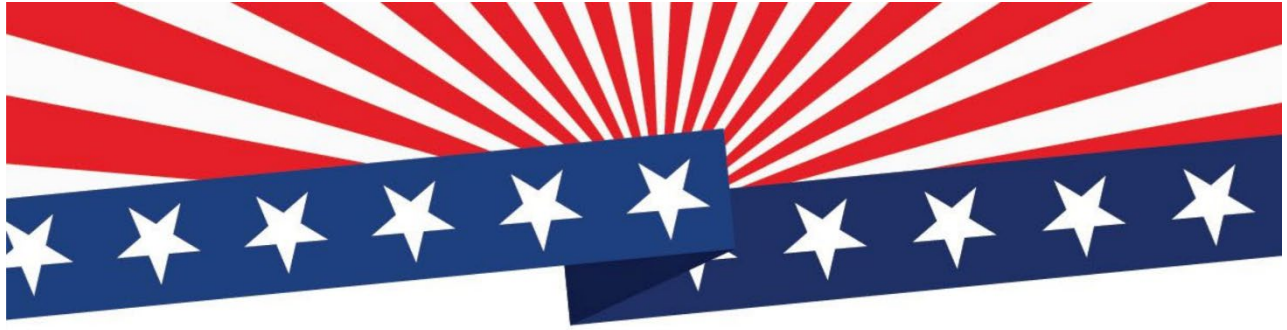
This year our presenters will give us updates on various solutions that have helped both providing contact or information to committees such as CPC, Treatment and Corrections. There will be presentations on AI and other hot topics as well (a list of topics is included in this email).

Year after year, our program committee has helped us to create workshop weekends that not only provide our membership with information that solves and scales solutions, but also educates and inspires our trusted servants. All in all, utilizing both presentations and hybrid discussions, our workshop's goal is to update or provide technology solutions for the better good to trusted servants at all levels of service..

The information-packed weekend will include:

AA's 12th Concept: Bringing Spiritual Guidance to Our Technology Community  
How Australia is Dancing the Digital 12 Steps  
What's New: A 2023 Technology Update from AA World Services  
What's New II: A 2023 Technology Update from The Grapevine  
AI for AA: The Potential for Generative AI to Enhance and Support AA  
How to Most Effectively Use AA Literature in a Virtual Setting  
Off the Shelf Solutions for Technology in AA  
DIY Usability Testing for Better AA Websites  
Virtual and Hybrid Events: The Pressing Need for Pre-Production  
AI for AA: Bringing New Depth to the Meeting List  
Solving Our Common Problems: A Technology Update from TIAA  
Virtual Meetings Best Practices  
Helping Online Meeting Groups Manage A Directory At Scale  
Solution Hacking  
Birds of a Feather  
Annual NAATW Members Meeting

Visit <https://naatw.org/2023-naatw-workshop/> for full details.



In support of the Red Cloud AA Group!

# Red Cloud Annual Yard Sale!

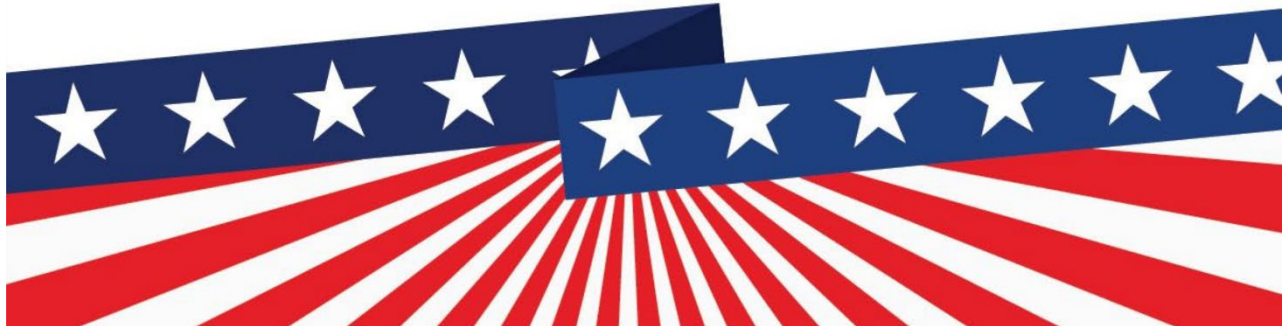
**DATE:** September 22 & 23

**TIME:** 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

**LOCATION:** Red Cloud Serenity Club, 10400 Ute Pass Ave,  
Green Mountain Falls, CO (Across from the Pond)

Donations are now being accepted at the Red Cloud. No furniture please.  
(We don't have room)

For more information or to have your donation picked up call Karen 719-  
510-5000





SOCO

# RECOVERY RALLY

Free event

## SATURDAY

6:30 AM TO 3 PM  
SEPTEMBER 23, 2023

America the Beautiful Park  
126 Cimino Dr.  
Colorado Springs, CO



## ABOUT


- Food trucks
- Music
- Speakers
- Vendors

Join the SOCO recovery community for a day of fun, music, inspirational speakers, food trucks and more! The event is completely free and is family and dog friendly. Join us as we celebrate addiction recovery, raise awareness and foster community.

Event speakers and musicians will include: Tanaine Jenkins, Mackk, Ryan Hampton, DJ Music and Adam Vigil.

## Join our recovery celebration:

Start the day with an inspirational walk 

Enjoy music & speakers throughout the day 

Visit sponsor & resource booths 

Win raffle prizes 

Families and dogs welcome 

### FREE REGISTRATION



# District 7 Corrections Volunteers Needed! (El Paso and Teller Counties)



Contact David P  
[corrections@coloradospringsaa.org](mailto:corrections@coloradospringsaa.org)  
720.498.5115

Corrections volunteers are needed to:

- Take meetings into State and Local corrections facilities, such as community corrections programs, county jails and prisons. The application process that volunteers are required to undergo varies depending on the facility and the Corrections Committee is dedicated to assisting the volunteer through this process.
- Act as temporary contacts for offenders releasing into our community from state and local correctional facilities. Temporary contacts are A.A. members who agree to meet an offender, upon release from a correctional facility, at up to 3 meetings to help introduce them to and become acclimated to our local recovery community.
- Correspond with offenders currently incarcerated. Correspondence volunteers write letters to those who are incarcerated sharing their experience, strength and hope through the mail.

## Minimum Requirements (El Paso County)

1. Must be at least 18 years of age, 21 for some positions.
2. Must have no felony convictions.
3. Must have no misdemeanor convictions in the last 3 years.
4. Must be off any type of probation or parole for 3 years.
5. Must not have had any arrests in the last 3 years.
6. Must not have been incarcerated or held in a detention facility for 3 years.
7. Must not have a close relative incarcerated at one of the El Paso County Detention Facilities
8. Pass a CCIC/NCIC background check

**Corrections Committee Meets:**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month at**  
**5:00pm at Colorado Springs Area**  
**Service Office:**  
**1353 S 8th St, Suite 209**  
**Colorado Springs, CO 80905**

Our Twelfth Step — carrying the message — is the basic service that the A.A. Fellowship gives; this is our principal aim and the main reason for our existence. Therefore, A.A. is more than a set of principles; it is a society of alcoholics in action. We must carry the message, else we ourselves can wither *and those who haven't been given the truth may die.*

from A.A.'s *Legacy of Service* by Bill W.

DISTRICT 7  
WORKSHOP

# AA 101

**PRESENTER: MARTHA M.,  
AREA 10 ALT. DELEGATE**



**7**  
**October**

**10 am - 12 pm**  
**Freedom Hall**  
**3026 N. El Paso St, Colorado**  
**Springs, CO 80907**

SNACKS WILL BE PROVIDED