

December 2023

The Pikes Peak Pint



Alcothon coming up!

The end of year major event, the Alcothon is being planned, to kick off Noon December 31st and running through Noon New Years Day. Location is the Sacred Heart Parish, 2030 West Colorado Avenue. AA meetings to be held all hours, and dinner, breakfast and speakers to be featured. (Please see flier for this event posted later in the PINT.)

2023-2024 ALCO THON

CELEBRATION

SACRED HEART GYMNASIUM
2021 W PIKES PEAK AVE

EVENTS:

12/31

NOON - DOORS OPEN

2-4 PM - SPEED GAMING (FOR KIDS & ADULTS)

6 PM - DINNER

*BRING DESSERTS TO SHARE

7 PM - SPEAKERS SALLY M (AA) PHILIP S. (ALANON)

9 PM - BAND *ABOVE GROUND* & DANCING

1/1

9 AM - BREAKFAST

10 AM - SPEAKERS KEITH H (AA) TBD (ALANON)

DONATIONS OF COOKED TURKEY/HAMS APPRECIATED

PLEASE DELIVER BETWEEN 1-4 PM NEW YEARS EVE

TEXT KIMBERLY TO VOLUNTEER

719-492-1238

\$12 SUGGESTED CONTRIBUTION

SUPERVISED CHILDREN ARE WELCOME

NO CHILDCARE WILL BE PROVIDED

CONTINUOUS MEETINGS

DECEMBER 31ST

12:00 NOON	HAPPY DESTINY
1:00 PM	SERENITY RIDERS
2:00 PM	DON'T WORRY BE HAPPY
3:00 PM	BIG BOOK ACTION
4:00 PM	FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE
5:00 PM	APEX GROUP
6:00 PM	PRIMARY PURPOSE
7:00 PM	YOUNG PEOPLE'S GROUP
8:00 PM	OLD NORTH END STUDY
9:00 PM	FOXHALL
10:00 PM	BACK TO BASICS
11:00 PM	WALK THE TALK
12:00 MIDNIGHT	VETRANS FOR AA

JANUARY 1ST

1:00 AM	CENTRAL GROUP THURSDAY BOOK STUDY
2:00 AM	FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE
3:00 AM	CENTRAL GROUP
4:00 AM	TAKING STEPS
5:00 AM	MAG
6:00 AM	BLACK FOREST GROUP
7:00 AM	EASY DOES IT
8:00 AM	FRIDAY WOMEN'S
9:00 AM	RED CLOUD
10:00 AM	MAG (MEN'S ADVANCEMENT GROUP)
11:00 AM	SUNSET SOBRIETY
12:00 NOON	NEW BEGINNIERS

ALANON MEETINGS
TIMES AND GROUPS TBD

AREA SERVICE OFFICE (ASO)

- Hours: Tuesday - Friday 10am - 2pm
- Area Service Office Manager: Jeanette
- Open service office volunteer positions:
 - Wednesday, noon – 2pm, 2-4, 4-6 starting November 22. (This is for a one month test of extending Wednesday hours.)
- We would like to expand our hours to include one late day and Saturdays.
 - If you are interested in one of these times please call.
 - A minimum of 6 months of sobriety is suggested.
 - For more information contact (719) 573-5020 or email: serviceoffice@coloradospringsaa.org

What is the Area Service Office (ASO)? There are approximately 300 individual AA meeting groups in the El Paso County, Teller County area, also known as District 7. The ASO strives to make AA books, literature, medallions, and other materials available for purchase by local groups. The ASO also operates *Night Watch*, which fields phone calls around the clock during non ASO operating hours. The ASO maintains the online website, meeting schedule, as well as facilitating Zoom meetings.

The “Programs” subcommittee of ASO puts on several area events each year, including the Long-timers Luncheon, Founders’ Day picnic, the annual Gratitude Dinner, and every New Year’s Eve the “Alcathon,” to provide an alcohol-free News Year’s Eve and New Year’s Day celebration involving meetings each hour of the event, as well as food and speaker sessions.

Easy way to donate to the Area Service Office:



Scan code

Venmo me



Colorado Springs Area Service Office

@coloradospringsASO



DECEMBER PINT CONTENTS

AA BIRTHDAYS FOR DECEMBER
CONTRIBUTIONS FROM MEMBERS
HOLIDAY SURVIVAL TIPS
ASO COMMITTEE REPORTS
UPCOMING ACTIVITIES
AA GROUP ANNOUNCEMENTS

✧ ✧
love,
peace,
and joy

FROM THE COLORADO SPRINGS AA PINTT

Walk the Talk

Lynn W 12-28-05
Joni M. 12-24-18
Kristina M 12-24-22
J.P. 12-20-22
J. 12-07-22
Scott 12-09-22
Corrie D. 12-13-16
Rachel S. 12-14-22
Rick G. 12-25-91

Happy Hour Group

Nalene C. 12-09-08

We Are Not Saints

Brian M. 12-04-20
John V. 12-01-16
Kelly R. 12-10-98
Mary R. 12-08-08
Tina 12-02-22

HAPPY

Birthday

Friday Womens

Connie W. 6 years
Margarita 2 years
Jess 16 years
Joanne D 29 years

Big Book Action

Taking Steps

Shari P. - 1 year
Justin B - 1 year
Carol R - 5 years

New Woman

Ginny 29 years
MaryAnn M 20 years

Post your group's Sober Birthdays - send info
to: pint@coloradospringsaa.com

CONTRIBUTIONS BY MEMBERS:

- Time: How I viewed it then (experience)

Time was something I always thought I had plenty of. I always had time to do what I wanted...work, play, make love, go fishing, go to concerts, look for work *I was looking for a job when I found this one*, but eventually I mostly had time for one thing... drinking. I'd quit for some appointment or function I had to be sober for but couldn't wait for the time to be over, so I had more time to drink.

Then time started running out. I had progressed in age and drinking. Time became my enemy. Never enough time to accomplish anything worthwhile. In my career, my marriage, fatherhood, manhood all the things I measured my life by. Time as a measurement ceased when I drank. The only time there was, was to have another drink.

- Time: How I view it today (strength)

Time for me today is precious. I get up early to pray, not well, but pray anyway. God doesn't care how I show up just show up and give Him time. I give Him time throughout the day. I take time to talk to my wife, ask how's she doing, what's she feeling. I ask my boss the same thing. I take time to ask others about themselves. I try to see their time as valuable not just mine. It is a work in progress every day because I'm selfish about my time no matter what time it is.

- Time: Long term (hope)

Time is a commodity I can't buy. It can only be used. How I use time determines the success of my recovery. I use time trying to do the next right thing, which gives me a chance of staying sober today. I can use time to call my sponsor or talk to my trusted friends for guidance. I can then use time to build on a tomorrow that is never guaranteed. But I have a chance of being sober by using my time wisely today.

AND FROM ANOTHER MEMBER:

Some things I have learned in AA

1. Letting go of old ideas is more difficult than one thinks but the results are worth the work.
2. Resentments and fear are one and the same.
3. Forgiveness for self and others is the foundation of emotional freedom.
4. Humility allows one to forgive and become part of the whole.
5. Humility is honesty spelled differently.
6. Anger is really just fear directed at others and is a part of life, it just doesn't have to direct life.
7. That I am the person I was born to be but was hidden periodically in the box built by not knowing the above.
8. That no one does this thing alone.
9. Asking for help and following directions is a sign of wisdom and strength.
10. Surrender allows all of this.
11. Never pass up a good opportunity to keep your mouth shut.
12. And, finally, that learning how to accomplish all of that is a life long labor of love.

AREA SERVICE

OFFICE

NEW HOURS

ON

WEDNESDAYS

10:00 A.M.

to 6:00 P.M.

From

November 22 to December 27

STEP 12:

Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry the message to alcoholics and to practice these principles in all our affairs.



TRADITION 12:

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

CONCEPT 12:

The conference shall observe the spirit of AA 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, substantial unanimity; that its actions never be personally punitive nor an incitement to public controversy; that it never perform acts of government; that, like the Society it serves, it will always remain democratic in thought and action.

TRADITION 12 CHECKLIST:

- ◆ 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?
- ◆ When I do not trust AA's current servants, who do I wish had the authority to straighten them out?
- ◆ In my opinions of and remarks about other AAs, am I implying membership requirements other than a desire to stay sober?
- ◆ Do I ever try to get a certain AA group to conform to my standards, not its own?
- ◆ Have I a personal responsibility in helping an AA group fulfill its primary purpose? What is my part?
- ◆ Does my personal behavior reflect the sixth tradition— or belie it?
- ◆ Do I do all I can do to support AA financially? When is the last time I anonymously gave away a Grapevine subscription?
- ◆ Do I complain about certain AA's behavior— especially if they are paid to work for AA? Who made ME so smart?
- ◆ Do I fulfill AA responsibilities in such a way as to please privately even my own conscience? Really?
- ◆ Do my utterances always reflect the Tenth Tradition or do I give AA critics real ammunition?
- ◆ Should I keep my AA membership a secret, or reveal it in a private conversation when that may help another alcoholic (and therefore me)? Is my brand of AA so attractive that other drunks want it?
- ◆ What is the real importance of me among more than a million AAs?

AA Group Announcements!

Please announce that big book action now meets on Monday 7:00, 317 E Kiowa, First Baptist Church.

We are currently finishing up on our tradition study and will be starting at the front of the book on December 18th.

- **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 @ 2021 W. Pikes Peak Avenue** needs support! Apex Group meets Fridays at 6pm, at the Sacred Heart Church in room 10.
- **Calvary United Methodist Church** We have a meeting space available for any 12 step group that needs it or is starting up. Contact Derf Bergman, Pastor, Calvary United Methodist Church
4210 Austin Bluffs Parkway Colorado Springs, CO 80918
(church mailing address).

Does your group have important announcements?

- Send announcements, flyers, and information to: pint@coloradospringsaa.org
- To subscribe, visit <https://www.coloradospringsaa.org/news-events/news/>
- The Pint is published monthly, with release dates approximately the first of each month.. Send your information within four days of the end of each month, to ensure inclusion in the following Pint edition.

Please direct all
communications to:
P.O. Box 459
Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10163
Fax: (212) 870-3003

STORY SOLICITATION

“A.A. for the Native North American Alcoholic,” Pamphlet Update

Deadline for submissions: December 31, 2023.

Submit your story form:

<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/cef87490c3ae4c3b9e6e50ce9eb33b24>

The trustees' Literature Committee has opened a call for recovery stories in response to the 2021 General Service Conference advisory action regarding the pamphlet “A.A. for the Native North American Alcoholic,” stating that the pamphlet be updated to include current stories of recovery and a new title that is respectful and inclusive. The committee is seeking stories of recovery from all Indigenous communities in the A.A. structure in the United States and Canada.

Stories of recovery may include but are not limited to:

- Experience, Strength, and Hope
- Steps, Traditions, Concepts
- Ethnic, cultural, gender and LGBTQ diversity
- Diversity of social status
- Sponsorship
- A.A. Service
- Safety & Racism
- Military
- Sobriety and Mental Health
- Experience in A.A. meetings
- Atheist/Agnostics
- Newcomer Experiences
- Cultural Reconnection

The suggested format for typed manuscripts is 500-1,000 words, double spaced, in 12-point font. Handwritten manuscripts should be approximately 5 to 8 pages. Please include your complete name, address, and email/phone information on the first page of your manuscript. A copy of your manuscript should be retained for your files. The anonymity of all authors will be observed whether their story is selected for publication or not.

Instructions for submitting your manuscript:

Deadline: Please submit on or before **December 31, 2023**.

Submit Your Story Form:

<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/cef87490c3ae4c3b9e6e50ce9eb33b24>



Email: pamphletstories@aa.org

Subject Line: A.A. for the Native North American Alcoholic

Postal Mail: Attn. Literature Assignment, General Service Office, Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163

On the envelope: The word "Pamphlet" should be written on the envelope and at the top of the first page of the manuscript.

Thank you for your participation in the process!

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From the Area Service Office (ASO) Archives:

Box 459 has been published quarterly since Fall 1969. Before that it was published monthly with special conference issues. Since December is the holiday season, I thought I'd write about the "good old days" and the Box 459 Holiday issue "Twelve Tips On Keeping Your Holidays Sober and Joyous." Thanks to Mark L. of the High Noon Group for remembering Victor E.'s name when I drew a blank. Any mistakes in this article are the responsibility of the author, Doug L.

For years, one of the last pages of the Winter issue – the "Holiday Issue" contained a page with twelve tips on keeping the holidays sober. Please see the following page for these twelve tips. The first issue I found with these tips was the Holiday Issue 1975. This 1975 write-up was not as elaborate as later "Tips." The first issue with a full-page "Tips" was Winter 1981. As usual with GSO and *Grapevine* stories, Victor E., the man with the fedora and a smile, made his appearance in the cartoons. Can you spot Victor E. in some of the twelve drawings? The last issue containing these tips was the Winter 2016 issue – the Holiday Issue. The Winter 2017 issue was still titled the Holiday Issue, but the twelve tips page was gone. Since 2018, the Winter issue is just that, the Winter issue. The Holiday Issue title was dropped.

I researched these dates at <https://www.aa.org/box-459>. Many Box 459 issues all the way back until May 1956 are available at the above URL. The ASO Archives has examples of hardcopy Box 459s, but nothing like the GSO hoard.

Twelve Tips on Keeping Your Holiday Season Sober and Joyous

Holiday parties without liquid spirits may still seem a dreary prospect to new A.A.s. But many of us have enjoyed the happiest holidays of our lives sober—an idea we would never have dreamed of, wanted, or believed possible when drinking. Here are some tips for having an all-round ball without a drop of alcohol.



1 *Line up extra A.A. activities for the holiday season. Arrange to take newcomers to meetings, answer the phones at a clubhouse or central office, speak, help with dishes, or visit the alcoholic ward at a hospital.*



2 *Be host to A.A. friends, especially newcomers. If you don't have a place where you can throw a formal party, take one person to a diner and spring for the coffee.*



3 *Keep your A.A. telephone list with you all the time. If a drinking urge or panic comes—postpone everything else until you've called an A.A.*



4 *Find out about the special holiday parties, meetings, or other celebrations*

given by groups in your area, and go. If you're timid, take someone newer than you are.



5 *Skip any drinking occasion you are nervous about. Remember how clever you were at excuses when drinking? Now put the talent to good use. No office party is as important as saving your life.*



6 *If you have to go to a drinking party and can't take an A.A. with you, keep some candy handy.*



7 *Don't think you have to stay late. Plan in advance an "important date" you have to keep.*



8 *Worship in your own way.*



9 *Don't sit around brooding. Catch up on those books, museums, walks, and letters.*



10 *Don't start now getting worked up about all those holiday temptations. Remember—"one day at a time."*



11 *Enjoy the true beauty of holiday love and joy. Maybe you cannot give material gifts—but this year, you can give love.*



12 *"Having had a . . ." No need to spell out the Twelfth Step here, since you already know it.*

Interested in Being of Service with Intergroup or District Committees?

- **Archives**
 - Chair: Doug L.
 - For info on Archives workdays at ASO, please email: archives@coloradospringsaa.org
- **Nightwatch**
 - Chair: Stephanie
 - Contact Area Service Office for more info 719-573-5020 or nightwatch@coloradospringsaa.org
- **Pint**
 - Mike H.
 - Collect local AA stories and announcements and send to 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 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.

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

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>