

## Pikes Peak Pint

The Pikes Peak Pint is a monthly AA-oriented newsletter that serves Colorado Springs and the surrounding communities.

### Area Meeting Additions, Deletions, and Changes (all meetings are non-smoking)

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

All Meetings at DOWNTOWN GROUP, 7 E. Bijou, Room 25 (above Zeezo's) PLEASE ENTER AND EXIT THROUGH REAR OF BUILDING! CHANGE: Before, During and After / Friday 6:00 PM /Open / 5160 N. Union Blvd., NE Corner of Union & Academy, located in Lower Level of Turning Point, Beginners and Beyond in Different levels of Sobriety

DELETE: Sunday Morning Women's Meeting / Sunday 10:00 AM / Open / Harbor House, 225 N. Weber (Platte & Weber)

DELETE: Sisters Not Saints / Tuesday 6 PM / Open / Harbor House, 225 N. Weber(Platte & Weber)

DELETE: Fellowship Hall Meeting / M-F 9:30 AM / Open / 2375 N. Academy Suite #100, South of Maizeland near Schlotzsky's DELETE: Fellowship Hall Meeting / Mon. & Wed. 6:00 PM / Open / 2375 N. Academy Suite #100, South of Maizeland near Schlotzsky's DELETE: Fellowship Hall Meeting / Tuesday 6:00 PM / Open / 2375 N. Academy Suite #100, South of Maizeland near Schlotzsky's DELETE: Fellowship Hall Meeting / Friday 7:00 PM / Open / 2375 N. Academy Suite #100, South of Maizeland near Schlotzsky's DELETE: Fellowship Hall Meeting Saturday 10:00 AM / Open / 2375 N. Academy Suite #100, South of Maizeland near Schlotzsky's DELETE: Fellowship Hall Meeting / Sunday 10:00 AM / Open / 2375 N. Academy Suite #100, South of Maizeland near Schlotzsky's

DELETE: Fellowship Hall Meeting Sunday 4:00 PM / Open / 2375 N. Academy Suite #100, South of Maizeland near Schlotzsky's



# A Note from the Editor

Write to The Pint at pint@coloradospringsaa.org

#### This month be sure to check out:

- ✓ News from the Corrections Committee (page 5)
- ✓ Milestones (page 7)
- ✓ AA ~ Around Town (page 8)

Email sobriety anniversaries, announcements, letters to editor and email subscription requests to the Pikes Peak Pint before the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month:

pint@coloradospringsaa.org

#### Local AA Service Office:

1353 S. 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 209, Colorado Springs, CO 80905 Phone: 719-573-5020

Email: serviceoffice@coloradospringsaa.org

Website: www.coloradospringsaa.org

# Intergroup Information and Contribution Addresses

# DISTRICT COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS Standing Committees

#### Corrections:

Bart B. - Chair Renee - Vice Chair

corrections@coloradospringsaa.org

#### **Public Information:**

OPEN - Chair Vice Chair Open pi@coloradospringsaa.org

#### CPC:

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

#### Treatment:

Casey C. - Chair Lisa S. – Vice Chair treatment@coloradospringsaa.org

#### INTERGROUP COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

#### **Local Service Committees**

(Call the Service Office for committee chair phone numbers)

#### Program:

Danielle W. – Chair Greg W. - Vice Chair programs@coloradospringsaa.org

#### Pint:

Rachel - Chair

OPEN - Vice Chair

pint@coloradospringsaa.org

#### Volunteer:

OPEN – Chair OPEN - Vice Chair

volunteer@coloradospringsaa.org

#### Nightwatch:

Thea S. – Chair Mary Katherine - Vice Chair nightwatch@coloradospringsaa.org

#### Web Site:

Courtney B. – Chair OPEN - Vice Chair

webmaster@coloradospringsaa.org

#### Archives:

Curt N. – Chair

OPEN - Vice Chair

archives@coloradospringsaa.org

#### WHERE to SEND CONTRIBUTIONS:

#### **Area Service Office:**

Make checks payable to Area Service Office (Cash OK, but do not mail). Include group name on check. Send to:

Colorado Springs Area Service Office 1353 S. 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 209, Colorado Springs, CO 80905

#### GSO:

Make checks payable to General Fund. Include Group name and number on check.

Send to: General Service Office Box 459 Grand Central Station New York, NY 10163

#### Area 10:

Make checks payable to Area 10.
Include group name, number, and District number on check.
Send to:

Area 10 Treasurer 12081 W. Alameda Pkwy. #418 Lakewood, CO 80228

#### Districts:

Make checks payable to DCM by name (not Dist. #). Include Group name, number and District number on check.

Send to DCM or to Service Office.

Rep District Email dcm7@coloradospringsaa.org
Alt. Nate G.
Al T. 26 dcm26@coloradospringsaa.org
Robert M. 27 dcm27@coloradospringsaa.org
Shari A. 28 dcm28@coloradospringsaa.org

#### **Pink Can Contributions:**

Make check or Money orders to Area 10 Corrections Committee.

Include Group Name and Number.

#### Send to:

Pink Can Contributions P.O. 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 May we received
5 Personal contributions,
1 Birthday contribution and
6 Grateful Giver contributions!!!

## Group Contributions – Thank you!!

GROUP NAME	Yr. to date	May '09
Above The Bar Group	\$0.00	
Apex	\$316.16	
Back to Basics	\$175.00	
Basket Talk Q and A	\$0.00	
Beacon Light	\$0.00	
Big Book Action	\$214.92	
Big Book Study UPH	\$0.00	
Black Forest	\$0.00	
Breath of Life	\$33.00	
Broadmoor	\$0.00	
Brown Baggers	\$0.00	
Celebrating Diversity	\$0.00	
Central	\$0.00	
Clean Air Group	\$0.00	
Cripple Creek Natural High	\$0.00	
Don't Worry Be Happy	\$200.00	
Down By The Creek	\$0.00	
Downtown Group	\$181.37	\$181.37
Drylander's Group	\$0.00	
Easy Breathing Group	\$0.00	
Easy Does It	\$50.00	\$25.00
Ellicott Group	\$0.00	
End of the Road	\$0.00	
Eye Opener	\$0.00	
Far North Group	\$0.00	
Fountain of Sobriety	\$20.00	
Foxhall Group	\$0.00	
Freedom From Bondage	\$0.00	
Friday Night 12 x 12	\$0.00	
Friday Night Live	\$0.00	
Friday Women's Group	\$339.00	\$100.00
Gals of Woodland Park	\$75.50	\$75.50
Gift of the Heart	\$0.00	
Good Ole Boys	\$0.00	
H.O.W.	\$0.00	
Half Pint Group	\$138.00	\$138.00
Happy Hour	\$0.00	
Hilltop AA Meeting	\$0.00	
High Noon	\$42.00	\$22.00
Hugo Group	\$242.00	
Into Action	\$0.00	
Keep it Simple	\$0.00	
Lake George Group	\$69.94	
Little Log Group	\$0.00	

GROUP NAME	Yr. to date	May '09
Living Free	\$0.00	
M.A.G.	\$200.00	\$200.00
Motherlode	\$0.00	
New Beginners	\$144.13	
New Women's	\$124.70	
Northwesters	\$0.00	
Outright Mental Defectives	\$0.00	
Pass It On	\$15.00	
Pathfinders	\$0.00	
Penrose Discussion	\$0.00	
Plug in the Jug	\$0.00	
Pre-Dawn Meeting	\$121.41	\$56.19
Progress Not Perfection	\$73.80	\$25.00
Recovery in Action	\$150.00	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
Rule #62	\$0.00	
Saturday Early Morning Mtg.	\$0.00	
Security Eye Opener	\$0.00	
Serenity Riders	\$247.84	\$247.84
Serenity Sisters	\$100.00	
Silver Key Seniors	\$25.00	
Sisters Not Saints	\$0.00	
Solutions at Noon	\$0.00	
Steel Magnolias	\$100.00	
Sunday Morning Speaker	\$0.00	
Sunday Night Big Book Study (Clean Slate)	\$50.55	\$50.55
Survivors Group	\$18.89	·
Taking Steps	\$0.00	
Then and Now	\$35.00	
Thursday Mens	\$0.00	
Thursday NoonWoodland Park	\$0.00	
Ute Pass Breakfast	\$0.00	
Veterans for AA	\$0.00	
Walk the Talk	\$900.00	\$300.00
Walking on Water	\$250.00	
We Are Not Saints	\$281.34	
Wed. Afternoon Ladies	\$0.00	
Wed. Westside Womens	\$0.00	
Westside Eye Opener	\$317.52	
Womens Step Study-WP	\$0.00	
Woodland Park Beginners	\$60.00	\$60.00
Woodland Park Book Study	\$0.00	
Young People	\$316.00	
Totals:	\$5,628.07	\$1,481.45
Total	\$5,628.07	

Thank you for your contributions. Support your group and support our service office!

## 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition

An extra dollar in the 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition basket just for your home group will help us meet our 2009-10 budget goals for Intergroup and the Area Service Office.

Intergroup Financial Reports

Financial reports are given to the Intergroup representatives at each monthly Intergroup meeting.

They are available upon request at the Area Service Office.

## NEWS FROM OUR FRIENDS ON THE CORRECTIONS COMMITTEE ...

The AA corrections committee would like to sincerely thank you for your service work in all areas of corrections. Your time and effort is invaluable! If you are no longer taking meetings behind the walls, have moved or are not interested in receiving this email please reply with a request to delete your address from our list.

The Corrections Committee is working very diligently to provide communication and information between AA and the agencies as well as the inmates we serve. We could really use all of your support at our corrections monthly meetings.

<u>PLEASE NOTE!</u> We have changed our monthly meeting to the 3<sup>RD</sup> SATURDAY of each month (from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday). Our next meeting will be Saturday, July 18<sup>th</sup> from 9:00-10:00 am at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 21<sup>st</sup> and Pikes Peak. We provide the coffee and everyone is welcome to bring a snack (donuts, bagels, etc) to share.

We are taking the committee to a whole new level now that we are at the district level. We will now officially have a budget to cover our expenses. We are in need of a committee treasurer with at least a few years sobriety to track our expenses and keep us on track with our budget. If you are interested, please indicate so via email and we can determine a treasurer at the next committee meeting. All interested persons should be in attendance at that meeting.

The Corrections Committee is in need of a sub-committee of 2-4 people to plan our 2010 workshop. If you are someone that, due to criminal history, cannot take meetings behind the walls, we would love to introduce you to service work on our committee. The committee meetings are only an hour, one Saturday morning per month. We discuss guidelines for taking meetings behind the walls, how to get literature into correctional facilities, how best to recruit people to take meetings behind the walls and what people in correctional facilities need in a meeting behind the walls. This is why it is so valuable to have former inmates at our committee meetings and attending our workshop.

#### FEEL FREE TO PRINT THIS EMAIL AND SHARE WITH YOUR AA GROUPS!

Please consider attending our next meeting Saturday, July 18, 2009. Hope to see you there!!

Bart B Committee Chair
corrections@coloradospringsaa.org
Renee J Committee Vice-Chair
corrections@coloradospringsaa.org
Phyllis D Committee Secretary
corrections@coloradospringsaa.org

# MILESTONES in SOBRIETY July 2009

## Join us in celebrating member milestones!

Big Book Action	
Dane N.	22 yrs.
Megan E.	10 yrs.
Stephen N.	9 yrs.
Skye B.	5 yrs.
Seth D.	1 yr.

Taking Steps		
Robin M.	18 yrs.	
J. R. C.	17 yrs.	
Matt S.	2 yrs.	
Patrick W.	1 yrs.	

Happy Hour	
Juni A.	6 yrs.
Cathy T.	3 yrs
Ralph	2 yrs.
Gary	1 yr.

Apex Group	
Susan H.	39 yrs.
Rich F.	19 yrs.
Karen T.	14 yrs.
Susan V.	6 yrs.

Friday Women's		
Betty C.	29 yrs.	
Nancy T.	25 yrs.	
Katy C.	24 yrs.	
Donna B.	23 yrs.	
Connie Sue	20 yrs.	
Yvette W.	18 yrs.	
Maxine C.	17 yrs.	

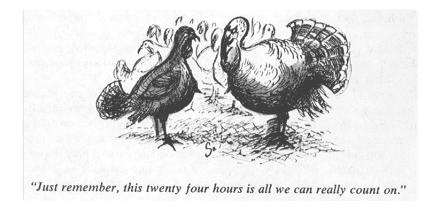
Steel Magnolia's		
Sharon S.	15 yrs.	
Kathy T.	13 yrs.	
Samantha P.	2 yrs.	

New Woman Group		
Denise J.	30 yrs.	
Donna B.	23 yrs.	
Renee	2 yrs.	
Karen R.	1 yr.	

Then and Now	
	30 yrs.
	24 yrs.
	Then and Now

Walk the Talk	
Dave T.	24 yrs.
Yvette	18 yrs.
Scott C.	10 yrs.
Delores B.	8 yrs.
Pat B.	7 yrs.
Emily S.	4 yrs.
Russ D.	3 yrs.
Patrick L.	2 yrs.
Dean G.	1 yr.
Diane H.	1 yr.
Jessica S.	1 yr.
Lynn F.	1 yr.
Tom	1 yr.

Serenity F	Riders
Joseph P.	29 yrs.
Keith G.	10 yrs.
Joan B.	9 yrs.
George H.	8 yrs.



## THE FOLLOWING GROUPS COULD USE YOUR SUPPORT!

- > Pass It On Meets 7 PM on Thursdays @ The Pine House 616 N. Pine Street
- ► HOPE FOR BEGINNERS MEETS 5:30 PM ON FRIDAY @ 7 E. BIJOU ST.
- **BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER MEETS 6 P FRIDAY, NE CORNER OF ACADEMY & UNION LOWER LEVEL OF TURNING POINT**
- **WOMEN'S BEGINNER MEETING MEETS 4:30 PM THURSDAY @ FELLOWSHIP HALL**



This years Annual Founders Day Picnic was held at Monument Valley Park from 2-5pm on Saturday June 13, 2009. There was lots of food, fun, and fellowship had by all. From the kids playing on the playground to the pets (dogs) running around in the pond, it was a great atmosphere for all to bring the family out for some good clean fun or for old friends to reconnect.

There seemed to be a broad range of sobriety with a good mix of newcomers, old-timers and all in between. It was a great opportunity for newcomers to experience the AA community, fellowship, and life. It was also a chance for them to meet new sober people that don't have to drink to have fun.

There was plenty of food for all with the tasty side dishes and scrumptious desserts; the grill was going from start to finish with burgers and hot dogs.

The speaker at the meeting was Curt N. and then afterwards tickets were drawn and people came and shared randomly (call-up meeting).

Thanks for all who participated in making the picnic a success.

I look forward to seeing everyone again at the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Picnic at Antlers Park on July 4, 2009 from 12-4pm.

Submitted by Kim R.

District 26 sponsored its quarterly PlayShop, Friday night May 29, 2009 at Holy Apostles Church.

The Happy Hour group was on hand to share their Experience, Strength and Hope, as it relates to the Home Group. Recovery, Service and Unity was the theme of the discussion.

Happy Hour home group members shared a bit about their history, sponsorship of trusted servants, the importance of and how to conduct a group inventory and how important having a home group is to their personal sobriety.

In addition to the Happy Hour Group, home group members represented Young People's Group, Into Action and the Last Chance Group!

The PlayShop was well attended; there were probably 30-40 people in attendance. Free food was enjoyed by everyone. The topic discussion was followed by a round of everyone's favorite PlayShop Pastime ...

AA Trivial Pursuit.

By the time the PlayShop was over, the message was clear. If you don't have a Home Group, get one! Information on the next District quarterly PlayShop will be forthcoming in July.

Submitted by Rachel N.



## Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings.

## Step 7: A Lifetime Supply

Coming into AA and finding the acceptance and love I'd sought in a bottle was a relief beyond description, but reading the Steps was a shock. Fortunately for me, my home group did not hammer the Steps into newcomers. Rather, they talked a lot about the Slogans and the need to not drink a day at a time. I needed that.

During a discussion of Step Seven, I made the statement, "If my shortcomings and character defects are removed, there will be nothing left!" I need not have feared. What I've learned since then is that I have more than a lifetime's supply of character defects. My Higher Power and I can't get rid of them all in my allotted time on this earth.

More importantly, I've learned that if I simply let go of a character defect--release it--my Higher Power will replace it with a character asset. As I release anger I find that I am friendlier. As I release hate I become more loving. As I release fear I become more secure. I don't have to go out looking for friendliness, love, security, or any other trait that I desire. I just have to give up the feelings that are manifestations of my character defects and the good automatically flows into my life. . . . And I used to think that I would become hollow without my character defects!

So, how does it work? Daily. On a daily basis I choose not to drink--or to fear, hate, be angry, or indulge in any other defect that's raising its ugly head. They're all there waiting, and when given a chance they charge into the center of my life and try to take over. But when I work Step Seven I find that my life is filled with good, and people actually like to be around me--something they never did in my drinking days.

C. Kathmandu

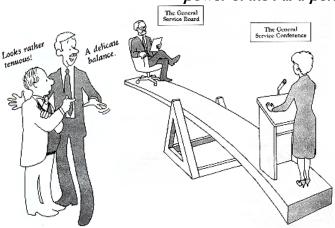


Self-seeking will disappear

To feel that our life is useless or has no purpose, so long as there is one single human being who might be relieved by our bounty, or helped by our counsel and loving kindness, is about as senseless as dying of thirst while we hold a full cup of clear pure; water in our right hand.



The Conference recognizes that the Charter and the Bylaws of the General Service Board are legal instruments: that the Trustees fully empowered to manage and conduct all of the world service affairs of Alcoholics Anonymous. It is further understood that the Conference Charter itself is not a legal document: that it relies instead upon the force of tradition and the power of the A.A. purse for its final effectiveness.



Concept Graphic from Southbay AA .org website

# Tradition 7

Every A.A. group ought to be fully selfsupporting, declining outside contributions.

- 1. Honestly now, do I do all I can to help AA (my group, my central office, my GSO) remain self-supporting? Could I put a little more into the basket on behalf of the new guy who can't afford it yet? How generous was I when tanked in a barroom?
- 2. Should the Grapevine sell advertising space to book publishers and drug companies, so it could make a big profit and become a bigger magazine, in full color, at a cheaper price per copy?
- 3. If GSO runs short of funds some year, wouldn't it be okay to let the government subsidize AA groups in hospitals and prisons?
- 4. Is it more important to get a big AA collection from a few people, or a smaller collection in which more members participate?
- 5. Is a group treasurer's report unimportant AA business? How does the treasurer feel about it?
- 6. How important in my recovery is the feeling of self-respect, rather than the feeling of being always under obligation for charity received?

Excerpts from AA Grapevine Archives and 12 Steps / 12 Traditions / Checklists

# **AA MONTH AT A GLANCE**

July 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
F		7	Toss an Extra \$ in the Basket at your Home Group in Honor of AA's 7th Tradition  Because today you are FREE!			CPC Committee 9:00 AM 7 E. Bijou St  Intergroup Programs Committee Independence Day Picnic 12-4 PM Antler's Park
5	6 Board	7	8 Don't put	9	10	11 Treatment
	Meeting 6:30 PM Service Office		off until tomorrow, what you can do today!			Committee 4:00 PM Pikes Perk & Tejon St.
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Call your Sponsor and find out how their day was! Don't have one? Get one TODAY!		Intergroup Mtg. 7:00 PM Bethany Lutheran Church 1401 8 <sup>th</sup> Street, CS (downstairs) Next door to S.O.			Area 10 Assembly thru Sunday @ Red Lion Denver Southwest	Corrections Committee 9:00 AM Sacred Heart Room 6
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Area Assembly Concludes	Submit Milestones to the Pint	Combined District Meeting 7:30 PM Red Cloud	Public Information 6:00 PM St. Francis Hospital 5 <sup>th</sup> Floor			Do something good for someone else today and don't tell anyone.
26	27	28	29	30	31	
		Step UP! Be of Service (see next page)				-



#### Personal Defects

I think I've usually been able to make a fairly thorough and searching job of finding and admitting my personal defects.

So far as I know, there isn't a single defect or current problem of mine which hasn't been discussed with my close advisors.

Yet this pretty well-ventilated condition is nothing for self-congratulation. Long ago I was lucky enough to see that I'd have to keep up my self-analysis or else blow my top completely.

- Bill W., June 1958.
- *The Language of the Heart*, p. 239.

## **Monthly Meetings**

**The Board** 6:30 pm 1st Monday, Svc. Office

**Corrections** 9:00 am 3<sup>nd</sup> Saturday, Sacred Heart, Rm 6,

2021 W. Pikes Peak Ave.

CPC 9:00 am, 1st Saturday - 7 E. Bijou Street

**Treatment** 4:00 pm 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday, Pikes Perk, Tejon St, Downtown **Public Info.** 6:00pm 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday, St. Francis Hospital, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor

Intergroup 7:00 pm 2nd Tuesday, Bethany Lutheran Church

1401 S. 8<sup>th</sup> St. CS CO (downstairs) Located next door to the Service Office

## **District Monthly Meetings**

Red Cloud Serenity Club 8020 W. Highway 24, Cascade

Combined District Meeting

All districts (7, 26, 27 and 28) 7:30pm, 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday



# STEP UP INTO SERVICE

The Following Service Positions are currently OPEN & NEED to be filled
Board of Directors – Vice Chairperson
Board of Directors – Vice Treasurer
Archives Committee – Vice Chairperson
Pike's Peak Pint – Vice Chairperson
Website Committee – Vice Chairperson
Volunteer Coordinator– Chairperson AND Vice Chairperson
Public Information – Chairperson and Vice Chairperson
~ Participate Don't Isolate ~



## Humbled By Humor

After seventeen sober years, one deeply engrained shortcoming remained. I decided to try really hard . . . for the umpteenth time. On my knees at bedtime I was ready to pray. I had planned all the usual heavy-duty mea culpas, replete with guilt and shame, pleas for forgiveness, promises to pray for those this shortcoming had harmed, apologies for not letting go, praises ad infinitum for my God's great mercy on this terrible sinner --err, shortcomer --and a very long grocery list of things I wanted to say to God, ending, of course, with the usual half-hearted request that he remove this shortcoming of pride and lust.

An epic Step Seven prayer. Maybe later in life, I thought, I would reprint it as an aid to newcomers.

I began.

"Lord, I'm imperfect but if I ever get to heaven, you can make me perfect." And just when I said "perfect," something happened.

Involuntarily, I passed gas.

Shock at flatulence in the presence of God!

I laughed. More shock at my laughter! I laughed some more. I laughed and laughed until tears streamed down my face. I tried to begin my prayer again but still laughed. "God, thank you for humor. Good night," I said, collapsed onto the bed, and laughed myself to sleep.

Now that the puritans and censors have ripped out this page and left in a huff, let's continue.

Since that night, God has removed this shortcoming. The connection? Humor unlocked the door. We only laugh about things which are dear to us. That's why so many jokes are centered on sex, politics, and religion--our most precious relationships with our family, our fellow man, and our God. Humor is a great sign of recovery and healing, and until we can laugh at our past, we will not recognize our imperfections or be humble. "Humor" and "humility" both have the same word ancestor.

My favorite quote from the Big Book is this: "First of all, we had to quit playing God." I apply it to each Step. In Seven, I present myself to God as human, halfway between heaven and hell, neither a god nor a devil. And I ask, expecting an answer, that he remove "any defect of character which stands in the way of my usefulness to you and my fellows." I don't ask him to remove shortcomings which will make me perfect. I will die with several shortcomings, which means I will die human--and, I hope, humble and humorous.

The Big Book warns us that "we are not saints." My friend, the Akron archivist, told me she's someday going to write a treatise entitled "Character Defects of the Saints." We need to be reminded that our character defects keep us humble and dependent on God.

"H" words surround Step Seven and me. I'm "home" in Seven. You have to have a home before you can leave it. Which, to me, means I cannot enter the outside world of non-AA in Steps Eight and Nine, unless I'm at home with my god and myself in Step Seven. Home is a place where I can always be myself, a sober alcoholic. If there's no home. I'm lost, drunk.

The most popular AA prayer --"Help!" --is what I ask God for in Step Seven. Not "Help me remove" but just plain "Help." We ask and God answers: Yes, No, Maybe later, Only these. For years, I refused to recognize God's "No" concerning my long-term deep, dark shortcomings. Over the past six years, he has blessed me with over thirty pigeons so apparently that defect didn't prevent him from using me to do his bidding. And, of course, the majority of those newcomers were just riddled with my shortcoming. God has a sense of humor!

Well, folks. Step Seven begins "Humbly asked". . . but lately, for me it starts, "Humorously ask. . . "

Years ago, a Grapevine contributor used the wonderful phrase "the whisper of humility." I pray you hear it in Step Seven. And I pray you also hear God's laughter.

Anonymous Wheeling, West Virginia