



July 2021

THE PIKES PEAK PINT

A Newsletter for the Pikes Peak Region of Alcoholics Anonymous

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

Our Primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics achieve sobriety.

Contributions can be made on the homepage of our CSASO website: 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.

Central Group BBQ - July 17th 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. July 17th 309 S, Hancock Blvd
Pueblo - Great Escape Dance July 10th 1332 HWY 50 Bypass \$8.00 kids under 12 free!
Meeting 5:30 p.m. Dance 7:00 - 10:00 p.m.

DISTRICT 7 COMMITTEES ARE MEETING AGAIN!

INTERGROUP MEETING

2ND TUESDAY
5:30 PM DOWNTOWN MEETING ROOM 210 N. CORONA
ZOOM: MEETING ID 895 839 8739 PASS 040 352

TREATMENT COMMITTEE

2ND SUNDAY
10:00 AM BLACK BEAR COFFEE SHOP 6550 S. ACADEMY BLVD.

DISTRICT 7 MEETING

3RD TUESDAY
7:00 PM LEGACY WESLEYAN CHURCH 502 N. WALNUT STREET
ZOOM: MEETING ID 741 7625 8437 PASS 928 532

COOPERATING W/ PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY

3RD SATURDAY
3:30 PM AREA SERVICE OFFICE 1353 S. 8TH STREET SUITE 209

CORRECTIONS COMMITTEE

4TH SATURDAY
10:00 AM AREA SERVICE OFFICE 1353 S. 8TH STREET SUITE 209

BRIDGING THE GAP

NO MEETING YET

NIGHTWATCH

NO MEETING YET

PUBLIC INFORMATION

NO MEETING YET

Happy A.A. Birthday!

Walk The Talk

Brett A.	2012
Mary Beth	2020
Josh	2020
Chad	1979
Kathleen H.	1991
Tom C.	2020
Maria	2017
Peg N.	2011
Ken K.	2008
Aurianna	2019
Coral	2020
Jeanie	2015
JoAnne J.	2017
Matt D.	2018
Cindy G	2003
Josh Inked	2016

New Beginners

Mark L.	2002
Marvene	2014
Robin M.	1991
Rory	2006
Teri B.	2012

Serenity Riders

Diane E.	1980
Craig S.	2011
Joseph P.	1979
Kirk G.	1987

Please send your groups birthdays to: pint@coloradospringsaa.org

Step Seven

I saw my father cry three times in his life of 80 years. Twice when our family dogs died and once when I ended up in detox with delirium tremens. He was a career USAF helicopter and fixed wing rescue pilot, and he knew a lot about controlled drinking from his younger years. He looked at me with fear and sadness. I ended up on the floor unable to control my muscle spasms wanting to apologize to him. I had no words. How did I get here? I had lost all control of my life and alcohol was my higher power. I needed a drink every three hours.

During the years of my drinking, lying, and bragging I was so full of fear. When I felt uncomfortable, irritated, or depressed, I drank. After seven days in detox, my fears were shared with a group of drunks at a state sponsored recovery house. It was there I admitted to myself and others that I was an alcoholic, and I was afraid. That was a rough dose of humiliation for me. My admission of my character defects was frequently faulty and came out in meetings as excuses and rationalizations. When I was told by my first sponsor to stop naming others character defects, AA was there to support, comfort and strengthen me to get through my Step Seven.

What is it about Step Seven that causes so much confusion and apathy? The word “humbly” and more contact with God asking to be open and willing to change means it is time to **Get Real** about my behavior. It was time to do something about my fears and false pride. In Steps One through Six, I moved through my fears and looked toward God. I learned to talk honestly and openly in women’s meetings and share my fears in an inventory. I was angry with my old form of pride and inability to work this out on my own. I was doomed to the same behaviors if I did not get real and change.

I have come to know the Seventh Step as an action step which means I have to ask for help. I must be open about my fears so I may receive. I am not always open to God-readiness, but I am more willing to change and grow today than I was yesterday. The following prayer from page 76 of the Big Book helps me to reach out for help:

“My Creator, I am now willing that you should have all of me, good and bad. I pray that you now remove from me every single defect of character which stands in the way of my usefulness to you and my fellows. Grant me strength, as I go out from here, to do your bidding. Amen.”

Sandra D.

Step Seven

I love words. I've studied linguistics and communication theory, and enjoy dissecting common phrases and passages to get at their underlying meaning and the symbolism the words have come to encompass. If I do not like the verbiage of something I will be quick to flag it in my mind. When I first started my journey in sobriety two-ish years ago, I found that the wording of many elements of the Big Book were off-putting. In my wisdom (translation: in my naivety and ego-fueled "I'm different and special" attitude), I thought that surely this program that was created in the 1930s by men for men had nothing to offer me (completely discounting, of course, the thousands of individuals from all genders and creeds who have gained and maintained sobriety through the help of AA and its fellowship).

One of the phrasing I took issue with was Step Seven: "*Humbly asked him to remove our shortcomings.*"

Shortcomings?! I've been plagued by shame and self-doubt most of my life, particularly in the months leading up to my first stab at sobriety. At the time I felt beaten down, my ego and self-respect pummeled into putty, and the last thing I wanted to do was to list out all of my deficiencies as a person as requested in Step Six, and then ask some higher power I wasn't even sure I believed in to take them away from me. Over time, however, I've learned that this step isn't about self-flagellation. It's about humility.

As we enter the 7th month, I have been speaking with members of the fellowship about what Step Seven means to them. Some I spoke with have completed the steps multiple times, some only once, and others are working on them for the first time. I, personally, have only worked the seventh step once, though I expect I will reach it soon as I am now completing my fourth step inventory with a new sponsor. A summary of each discussion I had boils down to that one word I mentioned before: humility.

I could go on to write out the Oxford dictionary's definition, but that's easy enough for anyone reading this to look up. One of the things that humility is not is thinking poorly of yourself and with self-loathing, which is what I initially felt the sixth and seventh step asked me to do. As one individual told me: "to me [the Seventh Step] is simply acknowledging that we are humans with all sorts of flaws that get in the way of living the best life we can, and asking for help to get past or beyond these flaws."

Ok, cool. I can acknowledge that I'm flawed and still show myself love.

Another person interprets the Seven Step as asking their higher power to channel their energy into more positive ways, feeling that most people's defects of character are the mirror image of their strengths. When this individual asked their higher power to remove their shortcomings, they felt they were asking for guidance at recognizing and rechanneling the energy in ways that are less self-serving and more beneficial to others. It's not a one and done, though, and no real way to mark success or failure. We will continue to be human, with all of our innate quirks. It's a lifelong process that requires daily self-reflection and regular check-ins with other alcoholics. Those defects of character will not fully depart, but by recognizing them and being humble enough to ask for help at removing them, you are opening yourself up to living your life in the service not of yourself, but of others.

At least that's my takeaway. As with anything, I reserve the right to change my understanding as I continue my own journey.

"My creator, I am now willing that you should have all of me, good and bad. I pray that you now remove from me every defect of character which stands in the way of my usefulness to you and my fellow. Grant me strength, as I go out from here, to do your bidding."

Sarah L.

Underappreciated Benefits of the Seventh Tradition

"Every AA group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions."

Alcoholics Anonymous would not exist today without group adherence to the twelve traditions. The traditions originally appeared in print in the April 1946 issue of the Grapevine in Bill Wilson's collection of essays titled, "Twelve Points to Assure Our Future." After about 10 years of explosive AA growth, Bill realized that a set of guidelines were going to be necessary to protect the organization from the divisive factors that frequently destroy organizations around the world. It is easy to see how the seventh tradition safeguards the groups from a host of financial threats, but it does much more than that.

The impetus for this particular tradition likely stemmed from John D. Rockefeller, Jr.'s refusal to supply a large donation to the fledgling organization. Rockefeller money can instantly turn a start-up into a thriving enterprise. John Jr.'s response was that such a donation would "spoil the thing" and emphasized that AA must become self-supporting to be successful.

There are two important components in the seventh tradition: being self-supporting and rejecting outside contributions. Accepting external contributions would yield the same lobbyist effects that we see in our government, where big money buys candidates and dictates policy. Wealthy AA donors would wield unhealthy influence over an organization committed to the inverted triangle of power. The greatest amount of influence resides in the individual members as expressed in their group consciences rather than flowing top down from a select few. This fact dovetails with the requirement for those very members to support their groups financially. This ensures that there will never be the need to accept outside contributions. It also drives the mentality that the AA group belongs to its members and its members belong to the group. Those who support a cause financially are not only vested financially but also socially and psychologically. We are more likely to contribute to the health of the group when we contribute financially. We are more likely to collectively embrace our interdependence as group members when we are all supporting the group through our donations and service. Such volitional commitment transforms a group of individuals into a goal directed team on mission together.

After benefiting from the traditions for over seventy years now, it's clear that they protect the AA groups from destructive factors. Perhaps even more importantly, they also unite the members of the individual groups, and groups across the world, in a common cause with an agreed upon game plan. The twelve traditions provide a unique framework allowing for group autonomy without sacrificing organizational uniformity in the essentials.

Noah A.
Colorado Springs, CO

LOCAL SERVICE OFFICE

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

Closed: Saturday - Monday
1353 South 8th Street, Suite 209

Area news:

There is a two hour volunteer opening on Tuesdays from 3-5 p.m. Six month sobriety required.

The Colorado State Convention is the annual social event for Area 10, and will be held September 3-5, 2021 in Keystone, CO. Log onto their website for more information regarding lodging and speakers: convention.coloradoaa.org

Nightwatch Needs Help! 1 Year sober.
Please contact the Area Service office at (719-573-5020 or by email at serviceoffice@coloradospringsaa.org or Nightwatch Chair at nightwatch@coloradospringsaa.org

GSO will no longer be printing a pie chart of suggested donations percentages as it can be found in the Self-Support, Where Money and Spirituality Mix Pamphlet.

If you are attending meetings by Zoom, feel free to make group contributions to the Service Office through the PayPal account and in the memo section enter which group it is for so your group gets recognition in the Pint as well as at Intergroup.

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 8th 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 Here
coloradospringsaa.org

WHAT IS THE STATE CONVENTION?

The convention is the annual social event for Area 10. Come for a weekend of speakers, meetings, workshops, food, dancing, and fellowship with AA's from all around the state.

WHEN is it?

September 3 – 5, 2021
The festivities start at 3 PM Friday and don't stop until noon on Sunday.

AA Speakers

Scott S: Philadelphia, PA
Kate R: Cincinnati, OH
Brad M: Buena Vista, CO

Al-Anon Speakers

Corrie L: Wietumpkan, AL
John L and
Dorothy L, Denver, CO



Stay in Keystone

Rooms are close, convenient, comfy and sell out fast.
Book your room today!

Keystone Lodge and Spa:

Group Code: CP3ARE1
King \$129.00
2 Queens \$129.00

Conference Village:

Group Code: CP3ARE1
Studio \$125.00
1 Bedroom \$149.00
2 Bedroom \$189.00
3 Bedroom \$289.00

Hyatt Place Keystone:

Group Code: G-ARE1
2 Queens (View) \$129.00
2 Queens \$129.00

Reservations:

800-258-0437

Lodging prices do not include taxes and applicable fees. \$50 Deposit upon making the reservation to hold room and will be credited towards bill or will be refunded if paid in full by a different payment method on date of check in. Cancellation of reservation within 24 hours will result in forfeiture of deposit.

Attendee Info

Name

Name on Badge

Home Group

City/State

Phone

Email

I'd like to volunteer (please contact me)

Registration Options

Pre-registration = \$40 (\$45 at the door)

- AA Admission
- Al-Anon Admission
- Alateen Admission

- Al-anon Luncheon (Sat) = \$42
- Dinner Banquet (Sat) = \$57
- Dessert Social (Fri Night) = \$15
- Bottomless Coffee with Mug = \$20
- Buy the TOTAL PACKAGE for \$120 (\$134 if bought separately).
Does not include registration.

Sponsor an attendee

Donate to a member who can't afford to go

TOTAL ENCLOSED

payment Information

Detach & mail this form with check.
No cash. One form per attendee.
Must be received by 9/1/2021 to get reduced pre-registration price.

Make checks payable to:
AREA 10 Convention

Mailing address:
Area 10 Convention
P.O. Box 21184
Boulder Co 80308

For more information or to register with a credit card please visit
convention.coloradoaa.org.

Accessibility/translation needs (please list):

Main Speakers

Karl M., Covina, CA

Judy K., Ashtabula, OH

Skip P., Taos NM

Margo G., Alb. NM

Myron T., San Felipe P., NM

Tory A., Acoma P., NM

Kathy H., Cincinnati, OH

What you can expect:**Inspirational speakers**

Fri, Sat pm Entertainment

Talent Show, Alcathon,

Art Raffle, Ice Cream Social Young
People's Events**September 17-19 2021**38th AnnualTaos Mountain Fiesta
“Staying In the Moment”**What you can expect:****Inspirational speakers**

Fri, Sat pm Entertainment

Talent Show, Alcathon,

Art Raffle, Ice Cream Social Young
People's Events**Contact Us:**

taosmountainfiestatmf@gmail.com 575-224-2183

Mail in Registration Form: PO Box 750 El Prado, NM 87529

Name (s) _____

In-Person Registration _____

x \$25 = _____

Name _____

Virtual Registration _____

x \$10 = _____

Address _____

Fiesta Mug (in person only) _____

x \$12 = _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Fiesta T-Shirt (in person only) _____

x \$15 = _____

Phone () _____ Email _____

Fiesta T-Shirt (shipped)* _____

x \$15 + \$7 shipping = _____

* \$7 shipping for 1-2 shirts. Add another \$7 for 3+ shirts

Banquet Ticket (in person only) _____

x \$35 = _____

TMF Package (in person only) _____

x \$80 = _____

*Package includes Registration, T-shirt, Mug, Banquet Ticket and 5 Art Ra

e Tickets

Scholarship _____

x \$1 = _____

Donation _____

x \$1 = _____

TOTAL for Order _____

\$ _____

Important!

This year's TMF in-person event will be limited to 300 persons! Register early! Virtual registration is not limited.

**To Register:
Online:**

<https://taosmountainfiesta.org>

Mail in:

TMF
PO Box 750
El Prado, NM 87529

Make Checks Payable to "TAOS MOUNTAIN FIESTA"
 Please add me to the 2022 Taos Mountain Fiesta Mailing List
This year's TMF, being limited to 300 in-person will be a stretch financially for us! Your generosity is MUCH appreciated.

