

# NEW FRONTIERS

## CLASSIC GRAPEVINE

**GRATITUDE TREE**  
BY L.N., Mahattan N.Y.  
December, 1981

I called my friend one summer night with a big problem. AAs had been telling me, "Unload and share when something bothers you." and I had my person picked for the job. Just listening to this friend's wisdom at the meeting during those early sober weeks had convinced me that he could "fix" anything - he had it all together.

But he didn't even let me come to the end of my woes. He interrupted me, quietly saying, "You should see my beautiful Christmas tree. It's the most beautiful tree you've ever seen. You should really come over and look at it sometime. I just turned on all the lights."

Was this guy crazy? Maybe he belonged to a special religious group that celebrated Christmas in the summer. Here it was the middle of summer, and he still had his Christmas tree up. And all the while, I'd been thinking he was one of the wellest persons I'd met in the Fellowship.

Pretty frustrating! There I was, all tied up in a knot because I had this problem I'd been told to share with another member, and I couldn't wait to unload the garbage. And the person I'd carefully selected for that privilege was babbling on about his beautiful Christmas Tree. "Let me tell you about some of the trimmings on it," he said. And he did.

"There's Mary's pretty ribbon from her second anniversary corsage, and Joe gave me a pretty card for one of my anniversaries, and I put that on a string and hung it on a branch. And a pretty young lady gave me a silk rose, which I stuck into the center of the tree. On the top of the tree is a little angel from a Christmas present I received from Anne. She had a hard time getting the program and had work through some difficult stuff, but she stuck with it. She's sober today."

On and on he went, telling me about his sober friends who had contributed to the trimmings of his beautiful Christmas tree - among them, a little toy I had given him. It was just a small tree on a table in the corner of his room, he said, but by the time he got finished telling me about all the trimmings on his tree, its form in my mind grew into the most gigantic and, yes, the most beautiful Christmas tree I had ever in my life seen.

Precious sober years have passed, and I have accumulated my own Christmas tree trimmings, contributed by all the friends I have been privileged to meet on the AA road to happy sobriety. I have my own tree of gratitude and can turn on all its lights anytime, any season, celebrating and sharing the miraculous gift of life, of sobriety, with you.

**Volume 3** **No. 11**  
~~November~~ 1989 **BASIC PRINCIPLES: STEP 11**  
**DECEMBER Awareness of God**

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

**SUBMISSIONS**

The following are the Topics for the Coming issues of newsletter for the next few months. They are:

January: 'We' Power  
 February: Came to Believe  
 March: Decisions  
 April: Acceptance

We hope that this will spur each of you to think about writing an article or some other demonstration of your thoughts on the Topics.

## Helen's Corner ...

- 1) What happened on December 11, 1934 that led to the answer to question 2?
- 2) What happened on June 10, 1935 that made possible the answer to question 3?
- 3) What's a spiritual entity? If you guessed Marley the ghost - Try again.
- 4) What does a spiritual entity have to do with October 25, 1941?
- 5) Ho! Ho! Ho! Merry Christmas and a Happy 1990 New Year.

You may be wondering why I should present a quiz at this time of the year. Well, it has to do with a man trapped on a rooftop while flood waters swirled around him. Jake proclaimed a great faith in God's ability to protect and take care of his every need. So, here was Jake, on a roof, praying to God for deliverance. Suddenly he heard a boat's motor and people shouting for him to come aboard. Jake refused saying God was coming to his rescue. They left and a short time later a helicopter appeared. A ladder was lowered to Jake, who again refused saying God was coming to his rescue. OOPHO, the water rose, Jake drowned and went to heaven. He met up with God and said "Hey, what happened? I thought you were going to rescue me." God replied, "I tried, I sent a boat and a helicopter. But you were blind to my means of your rescue." Poor Jake, he couldn't count his blessings and paid the price for arrogance.

During this holiday season we need to remind ourselves of what happened a long time ago which led to our rescue. This is the purpose of the quiz. What happened on December 11, 1934? This is the day Bill Wilson stopped drinking. June 10, 1935 is the day Dr. Bob stopped drinking and the two of them, together, began AA. Thank you, Bill and Bob.

The spiritual entity is described in the long form of Tradition 5. "Each Alcoholics Anonymous group ought to be a spiritual entity having but one primary purpose - that of carrying its message to the alcoholic who still suffers." A meeting can prove, to the newcomer, that sobriety isn't a painful horror of chest pounding self-pity. Each meeting is an opportunity for each of us to serve one another. The clearest memory I have of my first meeting was the smiling human beings who reached out their hands to shake mine. I felt accepted, I knew I was home. Why have so many meetings gotten away from having greeters? We stand around talking to one another while the new comer feels like a fish out of water. Shame on us! It's called complacency not gratitude for sobriety. Read the St. Francis Prayer on page 99 of the 12 and 12 book. We are like Jake waiting and assuming God is going to do the footwork. Meetings need people to make coffee, set up chairs, greet, chair tables, sponsor, clean up, etc., etc., etc. We have enough people who only sit in chairs, what is needed are those willing to show their gratitude with service to the fellowship. Thank you for meetings.



Now that we know a spiritual entity is a meeting I can reveal the answer to question 4. On October 25, 1941 (48 years ago) Frank H. attended his first meeting. For those who don't know Frank let me tell you he's 93 years old and is the oldest oldtimer in the Western New York area. When he started there were only two meetings each week not hundreds. The odds against him were great but he wanted to get sober. His sponsor taught him the AA program, as he was taught, by word and example. It was a privilege for me to sit at the tables where I heard the same message - "Keep it simple, One day at a time, go to meetings, get a sponsor, live the steps, trust in God - and everything will be all right." What he taught me is what he was taught. He served the fellowship by carrying the AA message to every meeting he attended. Service to and fellowship with was his bottom line message. Thank you Frank.

My message to all of you - Ho! Ho! Ho! Merry Christmas and a Happy 1990 New Year.  
Yours in the Spirit of AA  
Helen

### SERVICE IS A JOY

by Tom Mc.  
Chapter 9 Grp

It is one of AA's Legacies: Service. When first I heard to get Sobriety you have to work at it. So I got involved. Picking up ashtrays and washing them. Helping set up the meeting room and cleaning up afterwards. Doing this I was given many good suggestions on how to live One Day at a Time. Also I heard you must pass it on and share. I then got involved with volunteer work, going to Correctional Facilities and Treatment Centers. When I went to the Facilities all I could think was only But For The Grace Of God There Go I. In fact, I had a spiritual awakening after a visit to Attica State. I found that being involved in the program you can Live One Day At A Time. Come on in the waters fine and you can grow with the AA fertilizer you get at these meetings and you just might help someone else. Offer your services at AA meetings or through the Central Office.

# GET INVOLVED!

by J.D., Wilmington Del.  
Grapevine, February 1971

One of my favorite gals in AA told me her definition of sobriety is that it's a gift. A gift we keep by giving it away. I love this interpretation and have adopted it as part of my own thinking. This flow of receiving and giving can be reached only by involvement.

What is involvement? It's saying "Yes" when called upon to serve. It's cleaning ashtrays, making coffee, speaking and chairing at meetings, going on Twelfth Step calls, working with institution groups - you name it. It's carrying the message the best we know.

So many of us said, "Oh God, I'd do anything to stop drinking, anything!" And then we were introduced to AA and this wonderful program. The physical pain began to disappear; the mental agony dissolved; our spiritual beings were uplifted. The compulsion to drink was removed. The gift of sobriety was bestowed upon us, and we learned, by using the keys or tools of the AA program, that the longer we were sober, the better life was.

But One day we hit an impasse. We think, "I'm sober. Life is good. But something is missing." Twelfth Step work, maybe? Institutions coverage is one kind of of Twelfth Step work. Volunteer to serve. It can't hurt - it even help.

# 12 STEPPING

by John Roan  
Amherst/Snyder Grp.

For me it was a long climb up the steps to Step 12. In fact, I have to go back every day to practice these principles in all my affairs. I imagine its an easy climb for some. there are those fortunate few. Never feel disheartened if you need to hold on to the rails. In my life the rails are the people and the tools of the program.

Once you have made it to Step 12, the some times difficult, thankless, but always gratifying part comes into play. Carrying the message well, and to the best of your ability. The message may not always sink in to the person you meet, but nothing can replace the warm feeling you get knowing you've done your best.



# A Christmas K.I.S.S.

by C.T., Everett, Wash.  
Grapevine, December, 1985



For several holidays now, I have seen many in the program suffer. To some, the holidays are a painful reminder of days gone by, and they are filled with remorse or overcome by the sense of loss. To others, the holidays seem so frightening or threatening time, filled with emptation; depression runs rampant. I begin to dread meetings, because I know the topic of every one will be "How To Stay Sober During the Holidays."

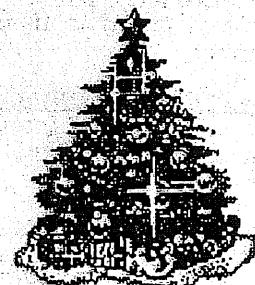
It seems to me the real topic of those meetings is "How To Stay Sober During The holidays And Still Do The Same Things Exactly the Same Way I Did When I Drank." This year, why not try something new? Look at the trouble spots, and change them.

If family gatherings are uncomfortable, search honestly for the reason you don't like going, and see if it's something you can change. But, do the unthinkable and stay home! My best friend tried it one Christmas after six years in AA, and her only regret was not having the courage to try it sooner.

Make up new family traditions, or do traditional things a little differently. Remember, change can be growth.

An AA friend of mine realized that he would sorely miss the family he had lost through drinking, so he invited several other loners from AA to his hme for Thanksgiving dinner. I was told by everyone attending that was the best Thanksgiving ever, though th turkey the host had cooked was only half done.

The holidays should be joyful reminder of our sobriety, not a painful reminder of the past. Probably, the easiest way to ensure that is to "Keep It Simple, Stupid."





## ANNOUNCEMENTS

# MEETINGS, MEETINGS, MEETINGS.

### NEW MEETINGS:

LOWER RIVER - SATURDAY - 1:00 PM - Closed Discussion - Meadows United Methodist Church, Fletcher & River Roads, Lewiston, New York.

SOBER WINNER - THURSDAY - 9:30 AM - Closed Discussion - VFW Post 2535, 112 Caledonia St., Lockport, N. Y.

SUNDAY MORNING BREAKFAST - is a new weekly meeting. The Buffet Breakfast is available to purchase at 10:00 AM every Sunday at the Carriage House Restaurant, 3000 Genesee St., Cheektowaga. Open speaker meeting is at 11:00 AM.

WOMEN'S GROUP - THURSDAY - 7:30PM - Closed Disc. - Pine & Fillmore in East Aurora.

### MEETING CHANGES

TURNING POINT & 6TH STEP GROUPS which meet in North Tonawanda on Tuesday and Thursday have a new meeting place which is the Emmanuel Church at the corner of William and Scott Streets.

### PLEASE NOTE:

A.A. WORLD SERVICES, INC. will be increasing the prices of all hard-cover literature come the first of the year due to a short fall in their project budget. The increase will affect the price of books sold out of the Central Office.

COMMON HOUR - THURSDAY - 12:05 PM - ECC ~~CAMPUS~~ RM-570. This meeting has been reorganized and is looking for people to become members. It is a CLOSED DISCUSSION MEETING.

WEDNESDAY LUNCHTIME GROUP is updating its' membership list - please contact Jeannette or another member if you wish to be listed as a member.

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION - JULY 5-8 1990 - if any one is still interested in flying to Seattle with a group call John L. at 632-0452 or Bill L. at 838-4135.

RUSH MANOR, 11438 Genesee Street, Alden, NY the TREATMENT FACILITY COMMITTEE is looking for a group to sponsor an A.A. meeting at this facility Saturday evenings.



## COMING EVENTS

DECEMBER 11 - MONDAY - COLD SPRING'S - 28TH Group Anniversary will be celebrated at 8:00 PM, 1490 Jefferson. Guest Speaker - Eating Meeting! Please bring a dish to share.

DECEMBER 15 - FRIDAY - SILVERCREEK FRIENDSHIP GROUP - First United Church of Christ, 31 Main Street, Silvercreek.  
CHRISTMAS PARTY - Eating meeting. Please bring a dish to share. Also, bring an unwrapped gift to exchange. Guest speaker. 50/50 drawing.

DECEMBER 16 - SATURDAY - FRONTIER group will hold its annual Christmas Party, at the St. Gerard's Hall, Bailey at Delavan. Doors open at 6:00 PM - Buffet at 7:00 PM - Dancing 9:30 PM to 1:30 AM. \$5.00 per person.

DECEMBER 17 - SUNDAY - TREATMENT FACILITY COMMITTEE ECMC CHRISTMAS PARTY 462 Grider St. Speaker at 2:00 PM. Eats at 3:00 PM. Bring something for the table - if you don't cook or bake - something from the Deli will be fine for sharing.

DECEMBER 18 - MONDAY - THRUWAY GROUP - Infant of Prague School, 921 Cleveland Dr., Cheektowaga - This group is having a Christmas Party that day with a guest speaker and goodies. Bring your favorite if you wish.

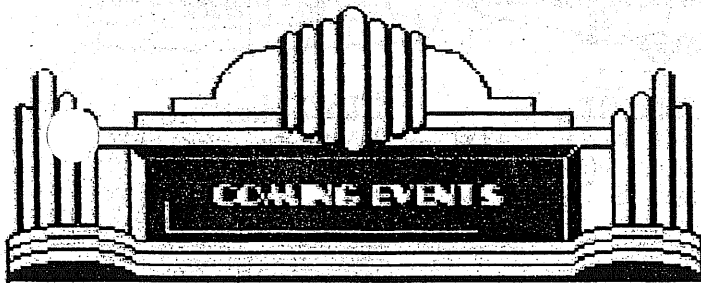
DECEMBER 23 - SATURDAY - REMEMBER WHEN CHRISTMAS DINNER - 291 Elm Street, 12:00 NOON. Please bring a dish if you can, your support would be greatly appreciated.

DECEMBER 24 - SUNDAY - CHRISTMAS VIGIL - Holy Cross School, 341 7th Street. Doors will open a 6:00 PM. Please do not park in Church lot. We have permission to use the parking facilities of Top's, McDonald's and Rite-Aid. Send monetary contributions to the Central Office.

DECEMBER 24, 25 - LOVEJOY CHRISTMAS VIGIL - At Visitation Church, 1040 Lovejoy and Green Streets. Sunday 5pm to 11pm - Monday 11am til ?

DECEMBER 31 - SUNDAY - NEW ZION'S 4TH ANNUAL NEW YEAR'S GALA DINNER & DANCE Advance tickets are \$12.00 each - see group members for tickets.

DECEMBER 31 - SUNDAY - THRUWAY GROUP NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY - Marygold Manor, 770 Maryvale Drive, Cheektowaga. Tickets \$15.00 each - see members for tickets - none sold at door.



**JANUARY 10 - WEDNESDAY - ELLICOTT GROUP**  
 will celebrate its' 10th Anniversary 8:00 PM at  
 608 William. Eating meeting - bring a dish to  
 share.

**JANUARY 13 - SATURDAY - FIRESIDE'S DAY OF  
 SHARING** - Erie Community College- No. Stu-  
 dent Ctr. Wehrle Dr. at Youngs Rd., Wil-  
 liamsville. 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM.

**JANUARY 27 - SATURDAY - ANY AGE GROUP**  
 will be holding their 7th Annual Blizzard Ball.  
 It will be held at the Msgr. Donovan Bldg. next  
 to the meeting location at Sheridan and  
 Elmwood. Doors open at 6:30 PM and the dance  
 ends at Midnite. There will be a meeting, food,  
 door prizes, giant 50/50's, music, dancing, fun  
 and fellowship for all. Tickets are available.

**REMEMBER**

**CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING**  
 SUNDAYS - Dec 5 and Jan 7,  
 7:00 PM. at 80 Goodrich Street  
 behind Buffalo General. Every-  
 one Welcome.

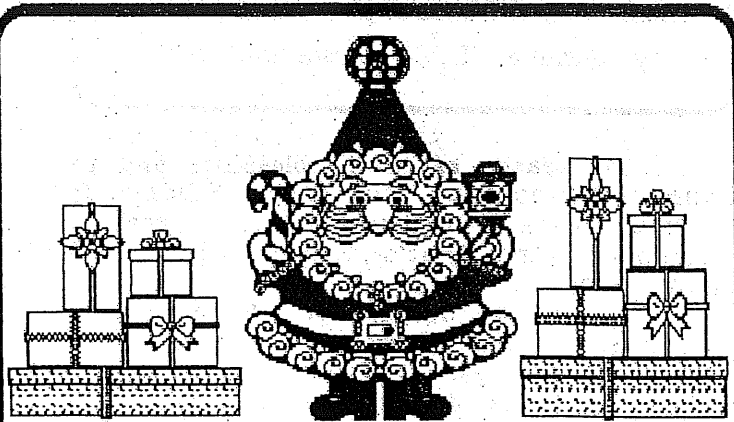


**Are you grateful?**

*I have often heard it at meetings: "I  
 am grateful to AA for my sobriety." I have  
 also heard it said at meetings that grati-  
 tude is an action word. So here is an appeal  
 to you out there to put the action into your  
 gratitude.*

*People are needed to be on the 12 Step  
 list. Those of you who have never done this  
 work will find much reward to your own so-  
 briety. If you would like to do some and  
 start to gain the kind of sobriety for which  
 we all have a desire.*

*Please contact Central Office at 853-  
 0388. and give us your name and phone number  
 and you will be put on the list. Perhaps  
 your group would like to be on the list you  
 might want to bring this up at your next  
 group bussiness meeting.*



**CHRISTMAS VIGIL**

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

- 6:00 PM DOORS OPEN
- 6:30 - 8:30 DINNER SERVED
- 8:30 - 9:30 OPENING SPEAKER
- 10:00 - 11:00 "NEW SOUND OF  
 GLORY"
- WILL PERFORM
- 11:30 - 12:30 SPIRITUAL PANEL
- 12:30 - 2:00 AM FELLOWSHIP
- 2:00 - 9:00 AM TALKATHON
- 9:30 - 10:30 SPEAKER
- 11:00 - 12:00 SANTA AND CAROLS
- 12:00 - 2:00 PANEL
- 2:00 - 4:00 STEP TABLES
- 4:00 - 5:00 SPEAKER
- VIGIL ENDS AT 6:00 PM CHRIST-  
 MAS DAY.

**FOR ENTERING VIGIL PLEASE  
 USE NIAGARA STREET EN-  
 TRANCE.**

**HOW IT WAS!**

**WHAT HAPPENED!**

**WHAT IT'S LIKE NOW!**

*September 1991 marks the fiftieth  
 anniversary of A.A. in Western  
 New York. The Fiftieth Anniver-  
 sary Committee is charged with  
 compiling a history and presenting  
 it at a gathering to celebrate this  
 milestone. If you have any infor-  
 mation about the events or oc-  
 curances that were the growth of  
 AA in the area or would like to help  
 in the creation of the celebration.  
 Please contact the Committee  
 through Central Office.*

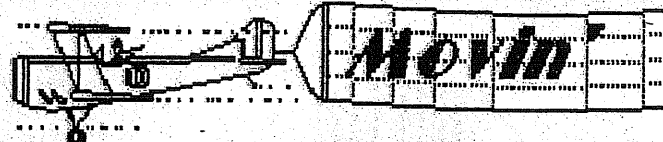
# AA CHRISTMAS MIRACLE

by Sandra H., Tonawanda, N.Y.

'Tis the season of many blessings and reflections of the holidays gone past. Holidays for many of us are a bitter sweet time of great joy and sorrow. And that's why, I thought I'd share my story of hope.

I joined AA in October of 1983 just before the holidays, by that Christmas it was evident my life was not going to stay the same, a marriage that was not strong to begin with, buckled under the pressure of recovery and in 1984 I was to lose my home, husband and children and if it wasn't for the fellowship I may have lost my mind. But I didn't, I instead worked on my resentments and clung to the hope you all had given me. I tried to fill my emptiness with many unhealthy things, too much activity, too much work and relationships I wasn't ready for. I was soon to discover that none of these could be a substitute for my Higher Power. I was to learn that I had lost all these people so I would have time with God, time to rebuild a shattered life and find out who I was, I began to gain independence by complete dependence on my Higher Power and putting one foot in front of the other. One day at a time, God and I began to build a new foundation, these were painful days. My children were returned to me, only to discover my oldest was seriously addicted to drugs and had many mental health problems. My youngest had severe asthma and a decision was made to let him live with his father and my middle child watched in sadness all the unexplained circumstances of life, she grew stong along with me and we became close, we still are.

During this time I was living on Social Services and going to school, things were tight but somehow there was always enough gas to get to a meeting and a dollar for the basket, I worked very hard at staying grateful, I spent my holidays with the homeless and my daughter and I made the best of the life we had. We began to live life on life's terms and slowly it started to get better. Then in December 1988 a miracle began to happen, I made a decision to live my life the way God would want me to and I let go of some unhealthy relationships that still existed and with all my heart asked God to transform me, I had a spiritual experience of profound beauty. Christmas night 1988, I saw myself as a small child, crying, naked and scared and then I saw myself as I am now lift the child and hold her in my arms until the tears stopped, Psychologists call this going full circle where we go back to heal the child within. I was filled with peace and warmth and I knew I had been given that Christmas, the greatest gift of all, A miracle I was given "me" as God intended me to be.



## KENMORE

Midge S. 19yr.  
Victor W. 1yr.  
Brian S. 1yr.  
Matt T. 1yr.  
Jeff D. 1yr.  
Lisa S. 1yr.  
Noni T. 6mo.  
Janet A. 6mo.  
Dennis B. 3mo.  
Jamie S. 3mo.

## BIDWELL

David A. 2yr.  
Richard C. 1yr.  
Mark R. 1yr.  
Daryl D. 9mo.  
Dan D. 3mo.

## NEW ZION

Elizabeth G. 8yr.  
Sally Ann C. 4yr.  
David M. 4yr.  
Joeline G. 3yr.

## EYEOPENER

Bob S. 9yr.  
Thomas M. 4yr.  
Michael H. 1yr.  
George W. 1yr.  
Rob M. 1yr.  
Brad R. 1yr.  
Paul R. 9mo.

Sharon M. 3yr.  
Susan M. 3yr.  
Rosalind F. 1yr.  
Susan M. 1yr.  
Lesly W. 1yr.  
Marlene W. 9mo.  
Paul S. 9mo.

## CHAPTER IX

Herb Z. 9mo.  
Laurie M. 9mo.  
Gus S. 9mo.  
John V. 9mo.  
Mary C. 9mo.  
Pat B. 6mo.  
Bill R. 6mo.  
John B. 3mo.  
Don W. 3mo.  
Skip S. 3mo.  
Tom P. 3mo.  
Barbara K. 3mo.

Jean C. 7yr.  
John N. 2yr.  
Scott A. 2yr.  
Phil S. 9mo.  
Michael O. 9mo.  
Horace R. 3mo.

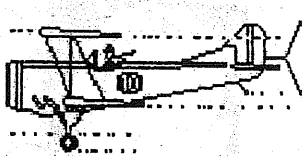
## GIVING

John N. 11yr.  
Joseph L. 2yr.  
Thomas B. 2yr.  
Teresa S. 1yr.  
Jeanette S. 9mo.



That New Years Eve I had the urge to spend it alone with God so I found an unlocked, empty church and spent midnight on my knees filled with humility, gratitude and joy, I knew that this was not the end of God's work but the beginning for he was about to build upon the foundation a house of great beauty and so he did.

Christmas 1989 will be spent with my soon to be husband in our lovely home and with our children and families. My mother whom I never knew is in my life today, I work with homeless addicted kids at the Franciscan Center and have an Irish monk as a sponsor. These are all things I did not have just twelve months ago. I get excited to think what lies ahead and I know this house that God is building will have many rooms all built from the lessons of the past. So this holiday, It is with sincere joy and gratitude that I wish all of you a Christmas filled with Hope.



# Movin' On In Sobriety

## UWAY

Fritz L. 11yr.  
 Pat T. 11yr.  
 Don E. 11yr.  
 Sheila M. 11yr.  
 Mike H. 10yr.  
 Cathy E. 10yr.  
 Al W. 9yr.  
 Mike W. 8yr.  
 Craig S. 7yr.  
 Frank S. 7yr.  
 Tom G. 6yr.  
 Mike T. 5yr.  
 Bob S. 3yr.  
 Harry G. 3yr.  
 Charles B. 9mo.  
 Darryl D. 9mo.  
 Ralph J. 9mo.

## NORTH BUFFALO

Art C. 10yr.  
 MaryAnn G. 5yr.  
 Helen M. 4yr.  
 Jill D. 3yr.  
 Judy S. 2yr.  
 William K. 2yr.  
 Daniel A. 2yr.  
 Michael S. 1yr.  
 Helen M. 1yr.  
 Marilyn R. 1yr.  
 Sue G. 1yr.  
 Perry C. 1yr.  
 Kevin C. 6mo.  
 Rita O. 6mo.  
 Tom C. 6mo.  
 Christopher K. 3mo.  
 Frank C. 3mo.  
 Mike M. 3mo.  
 Marilyn M. 3mo.

## CORNPLANTER'S

### AGAIN

Dick F. 17yr.  
 Alfred F. 7yr.  
 Leslie W. 6yr.  
 April E. 6yr.  
 Cheryl Z. 4yr.  
 Michael M. 4yr.  
 Ron b. 4yr.  
 Larry W. 4yr.  
 Roy M. 2yr.  
 Ernie C. 1yr.

## HARMONY

Clifford S. 6mo.  
 F. Urine B. 3mo.

## KENSINGTON

Fred L. 11yr.  
 Rich S. 6yr.  
 Erlene 1yr.

## IRONHORSE

NOVEMBER  
 Barb D. 7yr.  
 Jim M. 7yr.  
 Pat C. 5yr.  
 Barb M. 5yr.  
 John H. 2yr.  
 Karen M. 2yr.  
 Joe P. 1yr.  
 Pat B. 1yr.  
 Frank B. 6mo.  
 Jose A. 6mo.  
 Jack I. 3mo.

## DECEMBER

John M. 5yr.  
 Toni H. 4yr.  
 Dan Mc. 3yr.  
 Carol S. 3yr.  
 John F. 1yr.  
 Deirdra Mc. 1yr.  
 Gail S. 9mo.  
 Matt Mc. 9mo.  
 Larry H. 6mo.  
 Jim P. 3mo.  
 Mary F. 3mo.

## AMHERST/SNYDER

Meg W. 23yr.  
 Dianna C. 14yr.  
 Nancy O. 10yr.  
 Susanne R. 8yr.  
 Roy S. 8yr.  
 Lillian F. 7yr.  
 Ste. Jude 6yr.  
 Rick L. 5yr.  
 Rob W. 5yr.  
 Rich O. 4yr.  
 Tim P. 4yr.  
 Dawn S. 3yr.  
 Jim K. 3yr.  
 Clare Z. 3yr.  
 Manny P. 2yr.  
 Rick C. 2yr.  
 Bill R. 2yr.  
 Ron O. 2yr.  
 Sue W. 2yr.  
 Tom K. 1yr.  
 Andy E. 9mo.  
 Paul E. 9mo.  
 Greg F. 9mo.  
 Walt V. 6mo.  
 Ray S. 3mo.

## WED. LUNCH

Christine W. 6mo.  
 Leonard G. 6mo.  
 William R. 3mo.

## LAKESHORE

George M. 17yr.  
 Pete W. 2yr.

## FREEDOM

Joe K. 15yr.  
 Keith B. 3yr.

## WHY

Earl L. 8yr.  
 Peter C. 7yr.  
 Rita M. 3mo.

## SOUTH BUFFALO

Paul Mc. 23yr.  
 Joe O. 16yr.  
 Buzzy C. 10yr.  
 Timothy K. 4yr.  
 Laurie F. 2yr.  
 Sandy J. 2yr.  
 Loretta H. 9mo.  
 Leonard G. 9mo.  
 David P. 6mo.  
 Mike Z. 6mo.  
 Robin H. 3mo.

## LOVEJOY

### NOVEMBER

Eddie P. 5yr.  
 Donna B. 4yr.  
 Paul S. 1yr.  
 Art M. 9mo.  
 Ben T. 9mo.  
 John M. 9mo.  
 Jane V. 9mo.  
 Jeff W. 9mo.  
 James H. 6mo.  
 George H. 6mo.  
 Mary G. 3mo.  
 Linda C. 3mo.  
 Bob G. 3mo.

### DECEMBER

Tom G. 6yr.  
 Deborah M. 3yr.  
 Victor C. 1yr.  
 Tony N. 1yr.  
 Mike B. 1yr.  
 Mike L. 9mo.  
 Charles D. 9mo.  
 Bob E. 9mo.  
 Bruce P. 9mo.  
 Sharon F. 9mo.  
 Scott W. 6mo.  
 Joe B. 3mo.  
 Sandra J. 3mo.  
 Bob D. 3mo.  
 Lori D. 3mo.  
 George C. 3mo.

## ELLICOTT

Julius S. 14yr.  
 Patricia N. 13yr.  
 Griff N. 8yr.  
 Sylvester F. 6yr.

## FIRESIDE

Meta P. 20yr.  
 Irv. C. 17yr.  
 Nancy M. 10yr.  
 Randy 9yr.  
 Herb G. 8yr.  
 Frank S. 7yr.  
 Jeff B. 6yr.  
 Dick F. 6yr.  
 Don F. 6yr.  
 Candy C. 5yr.  
 Paul C. 5yr.  
 Joe H. 5yr.  
 Jamie O. 5yr.  
 Pam F. 4yr.  
 Bill G. 3yr.  
 Joe B. 2yr.  
 Rick C. 2yr.  
 Jeff M. 2yr.  
 Don S. 2yr.  
 Rob S. 2yr.  
 Ward B. 1yr.  
 Dave K. 1yr.  
 Bob P. 1yr.  
 Steven M. 1yr.  
 John G. 9mo.  
 Marlene H. 9mo.  
 Sophia K. 9mo.  
 Bill R. 6mo.  
 Al F. 3mo.

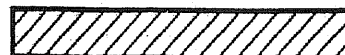
## WOMEN'S

### WESTSIDE DISC

Marianna M. 4yr.  
 Linda K. 3yr.  
 Mary S. 2yr.  
 Blaire D. 1yr.  
 Erlene R. 1yr.  
 Tara S. 1yr.  
 Edna P. 9mo.  
 Dianna F. 9mo.  
 Trina W. 9mo.  
 Diane C. 6mo.  
 Doris B. 6mo.  
 Laurie S. 3mo.

## COLD SPRING

Robert B. 23yr.  
 Gigi P. 19yr.  
 Al C. 11yr.  
 Leon P. 5yr.  
 Horace M. 3yr.  
 Raymond H. 2yr.  
 William G. 1yr.  
 Glenn McD. 1yr.  
 Henry M. 6mo.  
 Kenneth D. 6mo.  
 Ronnie C. 6mo.  
 Reggie L. 3mo.



## AA CENTRAL OFFICE

845 Ellicott Square Bldg  
295 Main Street  
Buffalo, New York 14203

(716)853-0388

Executive Secretary - Delphine H.  
Clerical - Helen B.

## Our Co-Founders



Dr. Bob  
1879-1950



Bill W.  
1895-1971

## CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Chairman - Lynn C.  
Recording Secretary - Lue S.  
Financial Secretary - Roger P.

Central Committee meets on the **first Sunday of every month** at 7:00 PM at the COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER, 80 Goodrich Street (behind Buffalo General Hospital). **OPEN TO ALL AA MEMBERS.**

## SUB-COMMITTEES OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Correctional Facilities - Martha C. and Toni.  
Treatment Facilities - Don H.  
Buffalo Fall Convention - Lloyd E.  
Screeners - Lynn C.  
New Frontiers - Larry B.  
Editorial - Helen S.  
Envelope System - Roger P.

**AA MEMBERS** are encouraged to share the fellowship by volunteering for any of these committees. Call the Central Office at **853-0388**.

**REMEMBER: WE ARE RESPONSIBLE.**

## STEERING COMMITTEE

DISTRICT 1 - Central Buffalo : Jack C.  
2 - Northwest Buffalo : Sue G.  
3 - South Buffalo : Gigi P.  
4 - Southtowns : Gary H.

DISTRICT 5 - Northern Tier : Paul H.  
6 - Southern Tier : Dick L.  
7 - Northeast Buffalo : Carol R.  
8 - Eastern Tier : Bernie A.

**WESTERN NEW YORK GENERAL SERVICE** meets the last Sunday of February, June, September and November. Meetings are held at the ORCHARD PARK MUNICIPAL BUILDING at 2:00 PM. June meeting will be in Jamestown. **EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO ATTEND THE GSO MEETINGS.**

The **NEW FRONTIERS** is your AA newsletter. Our purpose is to present personal stories and subjects directly related to the recovery from alcoholism. For inclusion in the next issue, material must reach the Central Office by **December 15<sup>th</sup>** for inclusion in the January issue. Your artwork, poems, articles etc. are also welcome.

## NEXT MONTH'S THEME : "We" Power

The **NEW FRONTIERS** will be mailed to you monthly for a yearly cost of \$6.00.

To subscribe EITHER 1) call the Central Office at 853-0388

OR 2) fill out this form (please print)  
and send to the Central Office.

Make checks or money orders payable in  
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CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

c/o Alcoholics Anonymous  
845 Ellicott Square Bldg  
295 Main Street  
Buffalo, NY 14203-2545



Chairman, Larry B. opened the meeting with a moment of silence, followed by the Serenity Prayer. The Preamble, Purpose of Central Committee, and the Twelve Traditions were read.

## 48 GROUPS WERE REPRESENTED:

ABBOTT MENS DISC	HIGH VIEW	OPEN MIND
AS BILL SEES IT	HONESTY	PERRY DISC
BIDWELL	HUMBLY WILLING	REMEMBER WHEN
B.M.D. BIDWELL MONDAY	INNER CITY	RUSH HALL
BOULEVARD WOMENS	IRON HORSE	SECURITY
BRASS	KENMORE	SHERIDAN
CAZENOVIA	KENSINGTON DISC	SOUTH BUFFALO
CHEEKTOWAGA	LAKE VIEW	SUNDAY NITERS
COLD SPRINGS	LIVE & LET LIVE	SUNRISE COURT
COMMON PROBLEMS	LIVING SOBER	TWIN CITIES
DELAWARE DISCUSSION	LOVEJOY	URBAN
ELLICOTT	McKINLEY WINNERS	WE ADMITTED
GIVING	NEW LIFE	WEDNESDAY LUNCHEON
HAPPY HOUR	NEW WESTSIDE	WHY
HARMONY	NORTH BUFFALO	WILLIAMSVILLE
HIGH NOON	NORTH JAVA	YOU'LL NEVER WALK ALONE

The Chairman called for the various reports:

## ENVELOPE SYSTEM:

Roger P.

	1988	1989			
NOVEMBER	\$ 799.00	\$ 713.00	\$ 86.00	( 10.8%)	DECREASE
YEAR TO DATE	\$8,275.00	\$7,463.00	\$812.00	( 9.8%)	DECREASE

## STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING NOVEMBER 28, 1989 - Carol R.

Present were: Helen B., Larry B., Carol R., and Paul H. Meeting opened at 6:10 p.m. with the Serenity Prayer. Minutes from October 31, 1989 meeting were read.

## OLD BUSINESS:

1. Treatment Facility Committee - No one has stepped forward to volunteer for co-chair
2. Both forms of the new schedules are at the printers.
3. Literature will be going up in price the first of the year. This includes pamphlets.

New Business:

1. A special committee is being formed for 1991 to celebrate 50 years of A.A. in the Buffalo area. The celebration will be a one day event and a booklet will be preserved. Ron W. will chair this committee. At this time he is compiling history. Helen shared that New York City will send a group history, upon request.
  2. Only one person was nominated for the Central Committee offices.
  3. The Lovejoy Group is, also, having a Christmas Vigil.
- Meeting was closed at 6:47 p.m. with the Lord's Prayer.

## FINANCIAL REPORT:

Roger P. (See Attached)

TREATMENT FACILITIES: Don H.

1. Guy M. resigned as Co-Chairman of the Treatment Facility Committee. Don H. is now the chairman.

2. On November 13, 1989 we held the first Treatment Facility Committee at the Central Office. Delphine H., Kevin N., Mary Lou Z., Dave F., and Don H. attended.

New Officers: Don H., Chairman  
Dave F., Vice Chairman  
Kevin N., Secretary  
Mary Lou Z., Treasurer

Next Treatment Facility meeting will be held in December and will bring together all the volunteers, new and old. We need volunteers to come forward and identify themselves, by coming to the meeting. Tentative date is December 19th, 7:00 p.m. at the Central Office. Advise Central Office, if you plan to attend this meeting.

3. November 14th, Dave F. and Don H. spoke at Sisters Hospital Methadone Treatment Center, to the counselors at the invitation of Larry S. Purpose: was to inform counselors about A.A.; also discussed having a meeting there. A meeting could not be started.

4. November 20th, meeting with Ann Palermo and Thomas Diina of ECMC's alcohol Treatment Center. Attended by Delphine H., representing the Central Office and the Committee members were Mary Lou Z., Kevin N., Dave F., Tim McC., and Don H.

Note: A second meeting is scheduled at ECMC for December 12th at 3:00 p.m.

5. November 26th Don H., gave a report to the General Service Assembly.

6. November 29th the Treatment Facility Committee met with Ted Wiencek, Nancy Olgesby, a floor supervisor named Leigh all at Bry-Lin Hospital. Treatment Facility members attending were Kevin N., and Don H. Also attending was Ralph D., who helps run the Monday night meeting, along with Dennis.

Problem: Meeting is listed as Closed, but all clients, including those who don't perceive themselves as having a drinking problem, are required to attend. We explained the meeting will have to be changed to an Open meeting and also discussed implementing an orientation type meeting. They seemed most receptive to an orientation meeting. Ted Wiencek stressed that the running of the meetings is A.A. responsibility.

Ted is now in contact with N.A. in efforts to start a Monday night meeting.

CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES: Toni H.

All meetings are running smoothly. If you wish to attend a Correctional Facility meeting, please call Central Office.

SCREENERS REPORT: Lynn C.

Volunteers are needed for the 12th Step and Screeners. Please announce the call for volunteers in group meetings.

CENTRAL OFFICE: Delphine H.

A.A. INFORMATION	799		
PIC	5	12 STEP	12
CPC		LITERATURE REQUESTS	94
ALANON	70	REFERRAL TO OTHER AGENCIES	37
ALATEEN	4	REFERRAL FROM OTHER AGENCIES	24
ACOA	39		
McCALLS SERVICE GROUP		CENTRAL OFFICE	
OUTGOING CALLS	104	OUTGOING CALLS	164
INCOMING CALLS	628	OUTGOING MAIL	\$171.43
		VISITORS	197

NEW FRONTIERS: Larry B.

The wrong month (November) was published in error on the December newsletter. We are happy with this month's submissions, but we can always use more.

BUFFALO FALL CONVENTION: Lloyd E.

The Committee is pleased to report on the success of this Convention. A full financial report and a check was turned over to the Central Office.

CHRISTMAS VIGIL: Helene E.

December 1 meeting. The Committee and the volunteers meet weekly at 80 Goodrich on Fridays at 6:30 p.m. till approximately 7:15 p.m.

We have Committee heads for the following:

Kitchen: Lue S. set-up and clean-up                      Coffee: Jeanette S.  
Greeters: Bill L.    Decorations: Pat

.They have been getting volunteers to carry out this service.

Names and numbers will be submitted for call-in information to the Central Office for Vigil-volunteering. Toys and T-shirts have been donated for gifts. Thank you Joe H. and the Buffalo Fall Convention. \$675.00 in Treasury, as of December 1st.

Everything is coming along and we look forward to Christmas fellowshiping in A.A. Continued group requests for monetary contributions and volunteers.

Happily Submitted,

Maribeth B., Vigil Secretary

Local FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY to be commemorated in SEPTEMBER 1991.

CHAIRMAN Ron W. - Telephone - 716-885-5729

There are a few activities and plans to be announced at this time. First of all, it is with pleasure that I announce that Linda Z. (High Noon) has joined the committee as Data Processor. She will act as a supervisor for the computer files to be created while the history is being compiled. Also, the General service Archivist, Brad B., has agreed to work with the Committee, since the actual "hard" material collected will be placed in the archives. A filing and reference system has been established to keep track of these materials. The committee will work in two phases:

Compilation - which will continue until a manuscript is ready for the printer, approximately one year from now:

Presentation - an event to simply remember what this is all about, at which the history will be formally presented to the Fellowship, one evening in September, 1991.

The Projected Budget for this committee will be presented at the January 1990 meeting. That budget will take into account the resources needed from the Central Committee, the support hoped for from the groups and some kind of projection to underwrite the cost of printing and distributing the history. The Projected Budget for the presentation will be prepared later in the year, hopefully to be presented at the June meeting.

The committee hopes to utilize the computer and copier in the Central Office. Consumables, such as paper and diskettes, will be needed.

A motif has been selected for this event. The official A.A. logo shall appear on distributed material, as well as a tulip, a flower representing renewal. The colors, blue and yellow, shall be used. They represent trust and remembrance. They are, also, the official colors of A.A. the official poster, when it is ready, shall bear the inscription:

Alcoholics Anonymous

Buffalo and the Niagara Frontier

1941 - 1991

Finally, this committee shall not only hunt and gather at meetings and interview oldtimers, this committee shall also set up tables at A.A. events, in the area. The simple fact that this is an historic, once in a lifetime milestone, is expected to motivate a great deal of sharing by groups and individuals.

#### COURTESY REPORTS:

G.S.A. - GENERAL SERVICE ASSEMBLY: Elizabeth G.  
G.S.A. meeting schedule for 1990  
February 25 Orchard Park Full Body  
March 25 " " Area meetings  
May 20 " " Full Body  
June 24 Olean Area meetings  
August 26 Niarara Falls " "  
September 30 Orchard Park Full body  
October 28 Jamestown Area meetings  
November 25 Orchard Park Full body

P.I.C. - PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE: Marcia W.  
12/5 I.T.T. Standard  
12/8 Western New York Day Treatment Facility - 10 persons, ages 13-15 at  
12:30 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.

C.P.C. - COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY: Bernie A.  
No written report.

#### RE-CAP

#### TREATMENT FACILITIES:

Treatment Facility Christmas Party at E.C.M.C. is Sunday, December 17, at 2:00 p.m. In response to Lue's question regarding Sheehan A.A. meeting, someone will have to come to Central Committee to get approval for the meeting.

CHRISTMAS VIGIL: Volunteers are needed.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

It was moved by Jeanette S. and seconded by Ralph K. to cast one ballot as a formal election of Lynn C., Chairperson and Lue S., Recording Secretary for 1990.

The Chair was officially handed over to Lynn C. by Larry B. Larry was congratulated on a fine job, by Bob H., on behalf of the Central Committee.

A motion was made to close the meeting by Lynn C., and seconded by Maureen H. The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lue Summers,  
Recording Secretary  
Cold Springs Group

Central Committee Account Financial Statement #600-771-7 NOV. 26, '80 - DEC. 26, '80			
46 Groups Contributed			3366.75
Joint Meeting (expenses 8.43)			26.32
New Frontiers Subscription			61.00
Envelope System			512.00
Literature			3382.97
Miscellaneous	Vigil	1185.00	
	Lovejoy Vigil	95.00	
	Printing	20.00	
	Fall Convention	5393.98	
	Anonymous	500.00	
	291 Elm	205.00	7398.98
	Total Receipts		14748.02
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>			
	*10 Ellicott Square Court Corp - mth rt		431.00
	Community Mental Health Center - mth rt		35.00
	McLeans Service Group-mtly		178.05
	Copies, Inc.-maintance contact		1070.00
	Helen J. Brady		107.44
	Delphine A. Hoy		281.00
	M&T Bank-fed. with tax		514.44
	Roger Pratt-Env. System stamps		50.00
	A.A. World Svc., Inc.-phamplets		743.56
	The Buffalo News-mtly		266.40
	Helen J. Brady		107.44
	Delphine A. Hoy		281.00
	Deer Park Spring Water, Inc.		54.80
	Copies, Inc.		72.66
	Walsh Duffield-office insurance		630.33
	Helen J. Brady		107.44
	Delphine A. Hoy		281.00
	A.A. World Svc., Inc.-literature		1428.00
	Cash- A.A. Christmas Vigil		650.00
	New York Telephone-mtly		132.07
	John McPhatter-Remember When Party		155.00
	Copies, Inc.		9.00
	McLean Service Group-Answering Svc		159.50
	Helen J. Brady		107.44
	Delphine A. Hoy		281.00
	Cash-Lovejoy Vigil		70.00
	Cash-A.A. Christmas Vigil		150.00
	Maureen Halleran-Christmas Vigil		500.00
	A.A. World Svc., Inc.-phamplets		936.00
	A.A. World Svc., Inc.-literature		2597.42
	Petty Cash		50.00
	Total Disbursements		12436.99
Balance Pr Checkbook 11/25/89	Adjusted	9810.18	
Add Receipts 11/25/89 - 12/25/89		14748.02	24558.20
Deduct Expenses: 11/25/89 - 12/25/89			-12436.99
Balance Pr Checkbook 12/25/89			12121.21
	Operating Credit for 12/25/89	2311.03	

		THIS MONTH	CHECK	EXPENSES	ACCUM TOTALS
ABBOTT MEN'S DISC		20.00			50.00
AMHERST-SNYDER		15.00			60.00
BROADWAY BAILEY					45.00
CHAPTER IX		10.00			125.00
CHEEKTOWAGA					50.00
CORNPLANTERS AGAIN					10.00
COURAGE					100.00
DELAWARE DISC					10.00
EAST AURORA					30.00
ETERNAL VIGILANCE		10.00			30.00
FATHER BAKER					55.00
FIRESIDE					50.00
GRAND					25.00
HAND					60.00
HILL BILLY					60.00
HONESTY		20.00			100.00
IRON HORSE					15.00
LAKESHORE					20.00
LAKE VIEW					60.00
LET GO & LET GOD					60.00
LIVING SOBER					30.00
MC KINLEY WINNERS					60.00
NEW BEGINNINGS					30.00
NEW ZION					75.00
NO BUFFALO		10.00			110.00
PASS IT ON					15.00
PATCHIN					25.00
REMEMBER WHEN					10.00
RUSH MANOR					490.00
SHERIDAN		10.00			120.00
SOBRIETY MENS DISC		30.00			30.00
SO. BUFFALO		5.00			50.00
SPIRIT OF HOPE					5.00
STEP					20.00
SUNDAY NITERS		15.00			65.00
TUESDAY WOMENS DISC		10.00			30.00
TURNING POINT					50.00
TWIN CITIES					30.00
WE ADMITTED					20.00
WE CARE		10.00			90.00
WHY					90.00
WORKING					50.00
RECEIPTS		165.00			2510.00
EXPENSES	CENTRAL OFFICE-LIT-Wende		407	240.00	
	CENTRAL OFFICE-LIT-Wyoming		408	52.90	
	CENTRAL OFFICE-LIT-Attica		409	180.00	
RE-CAP			EXPENSES	472.90	
BALANCE PR CHECKBOOK 11/25/89			360.82		
ADD RECEIPTS 11/25/88 - 12/25/89			165.00		525.82
DEDUCT EXPENSES	11/25/89-12/25/89				-472.90
BALANCE 12/25/89					52.92
OPERATING DEFICIT FOR	12/25/89	(307.90)			

Treatment Center Account	Financial Statement	602-089-5	NOV. 25, '89 - DEC. 25, '89	
	This Month	Check Number	Expenses	Accum Totals
Abbott Men's Disc				20.00
Amherst-Snyder	10.00			40.00
Beginnings				50.00
Bidwell Monday Discussion				50.00
Broadway Bailey				45.00
Chapter IX				25.00
Cheektowaga	100.00			100.00
Cold Springs				25.00
Community Center				25.00
Cornplanters Again				10.00
Courage				100.00
Delaware Disc				10.00
Downtown Mens Disc	10.00			10.00
East Aurora	25.00			120.00
Eternal Vigilance	10.00			30.00
Father Baker				55.00
Fireside	25.00			230.00
Hill Billy				60.00
Lakeshore				20.00
Let Go & Let God				60.00
New Beginnings				30.00
New Zion				75.00
North Buffalo	30.00			30.00
Pass It On				15.00
Patchin				25.00
Remember When				10.00
Rush Manor				100.00
South Buffalo	5.00			70.00
Spirit of Hope				5.00
Sunday Niters				45.00
TGIF	25.00			100.00
Turning Point				50.00
Twin Cities				30.00
University Mens	20.00			240.00
We Admitted				15.00
We Care	40.00			160.00
Why				70.00
SEMINAR				675.00
Receipts	300.00			2830.00
	Robert Haefner-cgts-ECMC	116	50.00	
	Central Office-ECMC 200 Cards	117	16.00	
	Bernard Arndt-ECMC-Christ.	118	400.00	
	EXPENSES		466.00	
RE-CAP				
Balance Pr Chec	book 11/25/89	Adjusted	482.60	
Add Receipts	11/25/89-12/25/89		300.00	782.60
Deduct Expense	11/25/89 -12/25/89			-466.00
Balance Pr Chec	12/25/89			316.60
	Operating Deficit for 12/25/89	(166.00)		