

NEW FRONTIERS

December 2006

THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER FOR ALL A.A. MEMBERS OF WESTERN NEW YORK AND THE NIAGARA FRONTIER
We request that this newsletter be kept within the Fellowship to insure anonymity.

December Topics for Discussion

STEP 12: 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.

"The joy of living is the theme of A.A.'s Twelfth Step, and action is the key word." (pg. 106 - 12x12)

"PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE shows that nothing will so much insure immunity from drinking as intensive work with other alcoholics." It works when other activities fail...Life will take on new meaning. To watch people recover, to see them help others, to watch loneliness vanish, to see a fellowship grow up around you, to have a host of friends - this is an experience you must not miss. We know you will not want to miss it. Frequent contact with newcomers and with each other is the bright spot of our lives." (pg 89 - Alcoholics Anonymous)

"This is our *twelfth suggestion*: Carry this message to other alcoholics! You can help when no one else can." (pg-89 - Alcoholics Anonymous)

"Even the newest of newcomers finds undreamed of rewards as he tries to help his brother alcoholic, the one who is blinder than he." (pg. 109 - 12x12)

- Carry what message to other alcoholics?
- Have I experienced the rewards of being helpful to others?
- Has my life taken on new meaning? Has loneliness vanished? Has the fellowship grown up around me? If not—why not?
- How is my home group carrying this message? What message is it carrying?
- Would it be fair to say that a spiritual awakening is a free gift of consciousness and being that allows us to bring love and emotional sobriety to those around us?
(exerpted from Pg 107 - 12x12)
- Do I bring love and emotional sobriety to those around me or am I a divisive force in my home group or our Central Committee?
- Do I help others out of gratitude for my freedoms or do I do it to appear the big shot and have others indebted to me?
- Am I unhappy with what Alcoholics Anonymous has done for me? Shouldn't I be asking what have I done for AA? If I have done nothing or am doing nothing why would I be surprised that AA doesn't work for me? Am I still the maker of my own misery?

"When you discover a prospect...If he does not want to stop drinking, don't waste time trying to persuade him...Don't deal with him when he is very drunk, Unless he is ugly and the family needs your help...If he does not want to see you, never force yourself on him...If your man needs hospitalization, he should have it, but not forcibly unless he is violent."
(excerpted from pgs 90 & 91 Alcoholics Anonymous)

- Do I try to bargain and persuade persons into AA who really don't want to stop drinking? Who aren't really alcoholics?
- Am I wasting my time on someone that doesn't want to recover when I could be devoting that time to others?
- Do I try to force myself into the family lives of prospects to pressure them into recovery? Is my motive to help or to be seen as a hero?
- Do I show up in places I am not welcome to pressure prospects?
- Do I try to make AA appear to be something that it is not in order to make it palatable to a prospect? Why do I do that? Is the AA program a negotiable instrument? Is AA Let's Make a Deal, or, Truth or Consequences?

I am reminded of a friend who asked us to call on her father. He was retching from a night of drinking and unable to hold down water. While admitting he was potentially alcoholic, he was unwilling to do anything about it at the time as he had a dinner date later that evening. We suggested he was not going to be the most attractive date and potentially could be arrested for attempted suicide for holding a fork too close to his face. We left him because he insisted he did not want our help. Upon arriving home the phone was ringing and he had had a change of heart. We took this person to the hospital. He remained sober the rest of his life.

"See your man alone, if possible...If he is in a serious mood dwell on troubles drinking has caused you, being careful not to moralize or lecture. If his mood is light, tell him humorous stories of your escapades. Get him to tell some of his own...commence to describe yourself as an alcoholic...Show him the mental twist which leads to the first drink of a spree. If he is alcoholic, he will understand you at once." (pg 91&92 - Alcoholics Anonymous)

"Tell him exactly what happened to you. Stress the spiritual feature freely. If the man be agnostic or atheist, make it emphatic that *he does not have to agree with your conception of God*. He can choose any conception he likes, provided it makes sense to him. *The main thing is that he be willing to believe in a power greater than himself and that he live by spiritual principles*...There is no use arousing any prejudice he may have against certain theological terms and conceptions...Don't raise such issues, no matter what your own convictions are." (pg 93- Alcoholics Anonymous)

"Perhaps we try to give advice about their affairs that we aren't really competent to give or ought not to give at all." (pg 111—12x12)

- Do I help a prospect identify if they are alcoholic or do I try to talk them into AA membership, whether alcoholic or not?
- If AA has a singular purpose, and a spiritual program of recovery, isn't it wrong to talk prospects around the traditions and begin their spiritual journey with a lie?
- Do AA's have the right to browbeat a member into submission to their conception of a higher power or is their obligation to create an environment where the consciousness of a prospects' own belief is sure to come to them?
- Is the statement true that "Free advice is worth what you pay for it"?
- Do I give advice I am not competent to give?
- Do I refer members and nonmembers to agencies and fellowships that have more direct experience dealing with their particular set of difficulties than I, or do I try to make AA (and I) appear to be the solution for everything?

"Outline the program of action...Make it plain he is under no obligation to you...Suggest how important it is that he place the welfare of other people ahead of his own...You shouldn't be offended if he wants to call it off...Maybe you have disturbed him about the question of alcoholism...The more hopeless he feels, the better." (excerpted from pg 94 - Alcoholics Anonymous)

- Am I able to relate my own experience with the program of action or does my story lack depth and weight?
- Does my behavior show that I place the welfare of others ahead of my own or is it a case of "do as I say, not as I do"?
- Am I disturbed when a prospect gives me the gate for another sponsor or am I grateful for the opportunity to be of service and turn my attention to someone I can help?
- Is a feeling of hopelessness a better motivation for a prospect to work the steps than some vague illusionary promise that "things" in their life will get better?
- Do I sit around trying to identify which of the Ninth Step promises have manifested themselves in my life without taking the first eight steps or is Action my magic word?

“...you might try to help him about getting a job, or give him a little financial assistance. But you should not deprive your family and creditors of money they should have.” (pg 96 – Alcoholics Anonymous)

“...and he is not trying to impose upon you for money, connections or shelter. Permit that and you only harm him...You may be aiding in his destruction rather than his recovery.” (pg 96 & 97- Alcoholics Anonymous)

“Helping others is the foundation stone of your recovery. A kindly act once in a while isn’t enough. You have to act the Good Samaritan every day, if need be.” (pg 97 – Alcoholics Anonymous)

“Your job now is to be at the place where you may be of maximum helpfulness to others...” (pg 102 – Alcoholics Anonymous)

- Do I deprive my family of money (or time) while playing the big shot in AA?
- Do I help others so I will be recognized for my benevolence?
- Should I stop counting the people I have helped and start counting the people I have harmed?
- Am I available to others whenever necessary or am I really put out when someone imposes on me for my time, especially when I am in the middle of “doing something for me” time?
- Am I really committed to the AA way of life or is helping others an inconvenience and vexation to my spirit?
- If I practice various spiritual rituals that are so consuming that I become spiritually arrogant how can I be of any earthly good?
- Am I spiritually superior as the result of my practices or are my practices really avoidance of the spiritual responsibilities to live fully and help others?
- Am I content to be a child of God or do I portray myself as his first born?
- I don’t know about you, but I am willing to visit the most sordid spot on earth...I only see souls to be saved!

“When AA was quite young, a number of eminent psychologists and doctors made an exhaustive study of a good-sized group of so-called problem drinkers...they sought to find whatever personality traits, if any, this group of alcoholics had in common...These distinguished men had the nerve to say that most of the alcoholics under investigation were still childish, emotionally sensitive, and grandiose.” (pgs 122 & 123 – 12x12)

- Have I developed emotional maturity or am I still King (Queen) Baby?
- Am I still more concerned with saving face more than saving my ass?
- If I am still emotionally sensitive? Why don’t I just GROW UP?
- Can I effectively deal with the conflicts of life (usually created by me) or must everybody suffer with me?

Tradition 12: Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

“The spiritual substance of anonymity is sacrifice” (pg 184 – 12x12)

“We are sure that humility, expressed by anonymity, is the greatest safeguard Alcoholics Anonymous can ever have.” (pg 187 – 12x12)

“With characteristic intemperance, however, some of our newcomers cared not at all for secrecy” (pg 185 – 12x12)

"Squarely before us was the question "How anonymous should an AA member be?" Our growth made it plain that we couldn't be a secret society, but it was equally plain that we couldn't be a vaudeville circuit, either" (pg185 - 12x12)

"Moved by the spirit of anonymity, we try to give up our natural desires for personal distinction as AA members both among our fellow alcoholics and before the general public." (pg 187 12x12)

- Has it been your experience that every time the topic is brought up about "Principles Before Personalities" someone has a personal grudge (resentment) and is looking for a way to justify it by exposing the person who offended them?
- On the group level should I introduce myself by first and last name, so I can be found?
- Am I intemperate about my AA involvement, openly sharing other peoples' personal experiences so I can appear in the know and play the big shot?
- Do we as group members meet our obligation of spiritual anonymity when we pay homage to the "Big Kahuna" of the group or are we placing them on a pedestal that has a slippery platform?
- At meetings do I espouse a picture of AA is that is in contradiction of the traditions and claim my right to do so by saying that I don't care whether this bothers anyone or not? Where is my humility and gratitude?
- Is AA as a whole meeting its responsibility to inform the public about who and what we are, and where to find us?
- Does our work need to be publicized in order to reach the suffering alcoholic or do we assume that "everyone" knows about AA today?
- What are we as a group doing to let the public know we are there and available? Are we in the church directory of our meeting place? Do we advertise in the local news? What about public service message boards and public television? If we aren't doing this then aren't we really too anonymous?

HAS IT BEEN A YEAR ALREADY?

This is my twelfth publication since taking over as editor of this newsletter and I am very grateful for the opportunity to serve. At this point our journey through the steps and traditions is at a conclusion as is the calendar year. I am seeking a direction to go in the coming year that will continue to stimulate discussion and focus our membership on our common problem and common solution. I welcome any help from members who would write articles. The membership of Alcoholics Anonymous has changed throughout the years but our focus and purpose remain the same; To have a spiritual awakening through the experience of taking the twelve steps that will remove the mania for alcohol and help us become purposefully productive and whole.

Upon my entry into Alcoholics Anonymous in 1979 it was apparent that I was an oddity. Most of the men and the few women in Alcoholics Anonymous were at least fifteen years my senior and it seemed like the end of my social world as I knew it. That changed in the early to mid 80's. AA's membership today is noticeably younger and seemingly better educated. However, my greatest lessons in the application of the program of AA were from men who had never been to high school. The membership in the 70's and early 80's was intensely loyal to AA and they would passionately defend the principles embodied in the twelve steps. The language in the meetings was more direct and left little room for a rationalizing alky to misinterpret our purpose. Old timers were the driving force behind group conscience and we respected their counsel and commitment to the program. We followed them like little puppy dogs and hung on their every word. They had weathered the stigma of alcoholism and made their way in the world while remaining loyal to the principles of AA. There is a marked change in the dynamics of AA since alcoholism is no longer a stigma and it is somewhat fashionable to be in some form of recovery. Those early members were not politically correct and would have floundered in the "go along to get along" fellowship we have today. Some of them left the fellowship in reaction to changes in which they could not

abide and they meet in private with other like-minded persons. What a sad loss for AA as a whole. Without long-term examples of spiritually based living we have no yardsticks to measure our own progress.

AA, in the new millennium, is faced with a myriad of challenges. Society has changed and is more tolerant of aberrant behaviors. We had a president who redefined what was to be considered sexual relations. What used to be solved in the parking lot with punches thrown is now solved with guns. Our children cannot pray in school and the pledge of allegiance is in question because of the wording, "One nation, under GOD." Treatment centers are restricted from using spiritually based recovery because they will lose their funding if God is part of the treatment process. Spiritual principles are out the window in today's society. These outside issues are not the concern of AA, but our incoming membership has been socialized in that environment. How do we maintain our spiritually based fellowship in an environment that rewards selfishness over selflessness? Is our traditional, spiritually conservative program viable in today's world? Will AA survive? It is my strongest desire that AA be here for my children and my children's children.

It has been said that AA was one of the greatest forces for spiritual healing in the 20th century. Can we still be a force for positive change with a less committed more self-involved membership? The challenges we face are not fundamentally different from those faced throughout our history. The great personal liberties afforded our membership need to be put in perspective. The question can, at any time, be boiled down to one simple consideration. Is the action or decision presently at hand the best thing for AA as a whole. Individual members must sacrifice personal gain and comfort for the long term good of us all. This was best expressed in the third tradition in the 12 x 12. A member who had problems in addition to alcoholism presented to become a member. There was a big hullabaloo about how this would affect the reputation of AA. In the end our early members asked "what would the Master do?" and our friend became a tireless carrier of the AA message. The spiritual sacrifice he made was that he never mentioned his other problem, except as it would be useful to others. He worked within the traditions, not in defiance of them. His obedience to spiritual principles set him free. We need more examples of this type of spiritual anonymity today. Is that meeting I am going to start on Wednesday, that is in the same area as three other meetings that have low attendance, really in the best interest of AA as a whole? Is my group driven by an informed group conscience or is it anything goes? Is the message we carry one of recovery from alcoholism or is it about rational-emotive therapies (horse-pucky)? Are we effectively carrying the AA message into treatment centers or have we become part of the treatment programs? Are treatment and AA related? What are we, and what do we do/not do? Do we really know? Do I/we give any thought to AA's future? Do I really care about any of this? (Shawn C- Editor)

We Still Have a Singleness of Purpose

Despite the efforts of well-meaning professionals who send all forms of dependent people to AA meetings, AA still deals only with the problem of alcoholism. We need to clearly communicate this to the administrators and staff of treatment facilities and, unfortunately, to our own membership. In our pamphlet "Problems Other Than Alcohol" the following questions were asked and answered by Bill W.:

- Can a nonalcoholic pill or drug addict become an AA member? NO!!!
- Can AA members who have suffered both alcoholism and drug addiction, and who have formed a group to help other AA's who are having drug problems, refer to such a special-purpose group as an AA meeting? NO!!!
- Can nonalcoholic drug or pill addicts attend closed AA meetings? NO!!!

"Regardless of our sympathies, Bill explains that it is the first duty of AA members to ensure our own survival. To stray from our single purpose will result in the collapse of the AA Fellowship, leaving the suffering alcoholics who follow us with no place to go." (excerpted from the General Service "Treatment Facilities Workbook")

A Prayer for Tolerance

God grant me the serenity to accept my condition gracefully and humbly, grant me also the ability to absorb the teachings of those who are, by their past experience, trying to help me.

Teach me to be grateful for their help. Guide me, oh God, in the path of tolerance and understanding of my fellow man, guide me away from the path of criticism, intolerance, jealousy and envy of my fellow.

Let me not prejudge, let me not become a moralist, keep my tongue and thoughts from malicious idle gossip.

Help me to grow in stature spiritually, mentally, and morally.

Grant me that greatest of all boons; that of being able to help my fellow sufferer in his search out of the morass that has encompassed him.

Above all, help me to be not too critical and impatient with myself.

(Ernie of Ravenswood, Chicago, Illinois-Grapevine September 1950) (Deb C. - Victory Group)

Some Favorite Quotes:

- "If you can't change something, change the way you think about it."
- "Looking for God is like a fish looking for water."
- "I know God will never give me more than I can handle... but sometimes I wish He didn't trust me so much."
- "I'd rather live in a world surrounded by mystery than in a world so small my mind could comprehend it."
- "Happiness is a by-product of right living."
- "Coincidences are God's way of staying anonymous."
- "If God is my co-pilot, I'm in the wrong seat."
- "What we really have is a daily reprieve contingent on the maintenance of our spiritual condition."
- "Happiness isn't getting what you want; it's wanting what you have."
- "I have a beautiful life. I just wish it hadn't taken me so long to realize it." Submitted by Mike S. Holland Group,

All Articles Gratefully Accepted. Send offerings to Central Office or e-mail to buffalooa@hotmail.com

IN MEMORIAM

Things We Can Not Change

Ron E.-Amherst Snyder Group

Marty B.- Holiday Village Group

Let's remember him and all the others who passed on in our prayers.

Share your Experience, Strength and Hope.

Please submit your articles by the 12th for next months issue.

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The Buffalo Central Office is Located at 681 Seneca St, Buffalo, New York 14210. Telephone # (716) 853-0388. Hours of Operation are Monday through Friday from 9AM to 12:30PM and from 2pm to 4:30PM.

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Alexander

George R. 19y

Amherst/Snyder

Bill F. 9m

Pat G. 1y

Jeffery C. 2y

Tim K. 3y

Mike O. 3y

Will M. 6y

Emily H. 14y

Robert G. 17y

Chuck W. 19y

Kevan G. 20y

Mark S. 25y

Big Book Lockport

Mitchell K. 1y

Cold Springs

Al C. Jr. 13y

Hoarance M. 20y

Gigi P. 36y

Bob B. 40y

Community Center

Larry R. 3y

Courage Group

Joy W. 4y

Debbie McE. 7y

Julie H. 7y

Cathy E. 27y

Fireside

Michelle M. 1y

Katie S. 11y

Maria D. 16y

Bill G. 20y

Gahada Gon

John V. 2y

Obie G. 3y

Giving

Terry H. 9m

Nilsa 9m

Michelle C. 9y

Jeff M. 18y

Holiday Village

Chuck Z. 6m

Joe T. 1y

Teresa C. 1y

Ben C. 2y

Jason P. 2y

Maria O. 3y

Mike Z. 6y

John L. 7y

Holland

Fred T. 18y

How It Works

Dan B. 3y

Pete P. 4y

Pete S. 6y

Kevin C. 9y

Mark C. 10y

Peter S. 14y

Tim M. 18y

Bill K. 19y

Lary F. 22y

Peter P. 39y

Kensington

Fritz L. 28y

Kenmore

Greg G. 4y

Lakeshore

Cheryl P. 3y

George M. 34y

Lakeveiw

Randy B. 7y

Dick J. 23y

Living Sober

Mike P. 4y

Bob S. 6y

Leah C. 7y

Tom C. 14y

Lockport#1

Mitchell K. 1y

Mike B. 3y

Randy W. 6y

Lovejoy

Brian W. 6m

Dave B. 9m

Andy R. 9m

Main & High

Tom C. 9y

North Buffalo

Jenifer R. 6m

Larry A. 6m

Don D. 6m

Jim S. 6m

Brett nF. 1y

Andy S. 1y

Loretta R. 2y

Dan L. 2y

Tyrone M. 2y

Terrance H. 2y

Nancy D. 2y

Matthew B. 3y

Judy S. 19y

Bill K. 19y

Renewal

Mel L. 34y

Rise & Shine

Ray B. 6m

Renee M. 6m

Lydia T. 6m

Denise J. 6m

Ron M. 9m

Tina O. 9m

Terrence W. 9m

Michelle W. 1y

Jesse J. 1y

Odell H. 1y

Tangry F. 3y

Liz B. 4y

Zelphia J. 4y

Tonya E. 5y

Billy C. 5y

Arnie J. 5y

Rubbin C. 6y

Kevin T. 6y

Lynn H. 6y

Steve M. 6y

Annette N. 6y

Earnest H. 9y

Karen S. 9y

Theo C. 17y

Sunday Morning

Breakfast

Lynn B. 6y

Annette N. 6y

Karen M. 8y

Joy P. 13y

Dave K. 18y

Surrender & Hope

Nancy O. 3m

Bob M. 5y

Terry H. 17y

Thruway

Jeremy P. 9m

Wayne S. 1y

Mitchell S. 1y

Louise F. 15y

Bill Y. 24y

Irene C. 25y

Catherine E. 27y

Mike H. 27y

Valley

Dan 3m

Al S. 2y

Victory

Barry R. 19y

Victory Women's

Kathy M. 8y

Sharon K. 26y



GROUPS CELEBRATING

Abbott Men's

Achievement

Cayuga Wake Up Call

Coldspring

Georgetown

Intoxicated on Life

Pass It On

Pathway to Peace

Roland

Sally

Saturday Nite Sober

Sober Winners

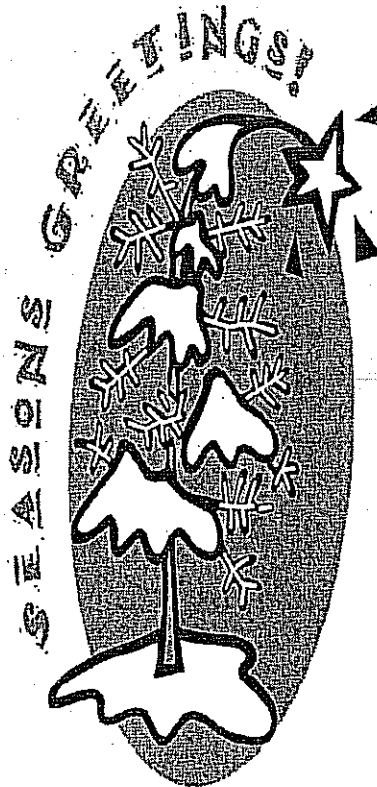
Sobriety on Saturday Night

Sunday's @ 8

Those, Too

Tri-Step

Wilson



sunday monday tuesday wednesday thursday friday saturday

BUFFALO CENTRAL OFFICE
681 SENECA STREET
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"He can only be defeated by an attitude of intolerance or belligerent denial."
 —The Big Book

1940: *Chicago Daily Tribune* begins series of 4 articles on AA by N. Hamilton.

1943: San Quentin News report "Mr. Bill" speaking to 300 inmates at their AA meeting.

3. Central Committee Meeting, SUNDAY, 7 pm, Corrections Committee Meeting, SUNDAY, 6:00 PM, Central Office, 681 Seneca St.
 1944: Australia is the first country outside the U.S. to have AA.

4
 *1940: St. Louis, MO, AA group is founded.

5
 *1938: Bill W. begins writing the 12 Steps using the Oxford Group ideas while "plugging the holes an alcoholic might wiggle through."

6
 1979: *Akron Beacon Journal* reports the death of Henrietta Siebering.

7
 1949: Sister Ignatia accepts Poverello Medal of St. Francis on behalf of AA from the Franciscan College of Steubenville, Ohio.

8
 *1934: Bill and Lois W. start attending the Oxford Group meetings with Eddy T.

9
 It's a pity we can't forget our troubles the way we forget our blessings.

10
 1975: "Birds of Feather," the special interest AA group of pilots, begins.

11 Special Needs Committee, 6:30 PM, The Kenilworth Church of Christ Church, 45 Dalton St., Kenmore.
 1934: Bill W. takes his last drink and enters Towns Hospital in New York City.

12
 1937: Bill W. meets with the Rockefeller Foundation hoping to raise money.


13
 Confusion is the state of grace for the alcoholic.

14
 **1985: Dave B., founder of the Montreal AA group, dies a few weeks before the 50th AA Nat'l Conv. in Montreal, Canada.

15
SILVERCREEK FRIENDSHIP GROUP CHRISTMAS PARTY, 8:30 pm, Speaker meeting followed by an eating meeting. Please bring a dish to pass.

16 HANUKKAH
 *1950: Paramount changes the title of its movie *Mr. and Mrs. Anonymous to Something to Live For* at AAs request. It deals with the "wonderful work of AA."

17
 *1947: The Alano Club opens in San Diego, California, with one member and one dollar.

18 Treatment Facilities Committee, 6 PM, Buffalo Central Office, 681 Seneca St.


19
 1939: 1st AA meeting in Los Angeles in a private home takes place.

20
 1945: Rowland Hazard dies; the carried the Oxford Group message to Eddy T.)

21 WINTER SOLSTICE
Main & High Groups 8th Annual Christmas Vigil, 5:30pm - 10:30 pm, Lifetime Medical Center, 899 Main St. Bring and dish to share. Speakers at 5:45 PM & 7:45 PM.

22
 *1939: Bill W. leaves New York to visit AA groups in Akron, Detroit, and Cleveland.

23 Archives Committee Meeting, 9 am, Buffalo Central Office, 681 Seneca St.
 *1995: The new AA Archives in Akron, Ohio, are dedicated.

24 Christmas Vigil, Lock Center, 292 High St. Buffalo
31 NEW YEAR'S EVE
 1941: San Diego AA holds its first New Year's Eve dance in a ballroom in the basement of the Maryland Hotel on F Street.

25 CHRISTMAS
 1949: Dr. Bob's last visit to St. Thomas Hospital's alcoholic ward, where he helped 1,000s of drunks.

26 KWANZAA
 *1937: Rockland State takes alcoholic patients to AA meeting in South Orange, NJ.

27
 1893: Rev. Sam Shoemaker is born. He was Oxford Groups head in U.S. and Cavalry Church Pastor in NY. Eddy T. took Bill W. to Calvary's Mission on 23rd St. in NYC.

28
POWERLESS
 does not mean we are HELPLESS & BROKEN



29
30
 December was the "slippery month" to AA oldtimers because it had more suicides, drunken slips, and wounded Christmas trees than any other month.

* OCCURRED SOME TIME DURING THIS MONTH ** OCCURRED SOME TIME DURING THE YEAR

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DECEMBER 2006

MEETING CHANGES:

- **Ironhorse Group, HAS MOVED; PLACE & DAY.** Now Meets on Thursday's at New Hope Methodist, 2846 Seneca St., West Seneca, 8 PM.
- **Positively Living Group,** now meets, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday, Ascension Church, 16 Linwood @ North. Buffalo.
- **Midnight Discussion Group also now meets on Wednesday's.** All Saints Episcopal Church, 781 Maple Rd., Amherst.
- **Any Age Group, Has MOVED** to, St. Timothy's, 565 East Park Dr. @ Ensinger, Wednesday's, 8 PM.
- **Lockport Nooner's, HAS MOVED** to a Private Home, 178 S. Transit St., Lockport, side door, 12 Noon.
- **Re-Starting the day after Thanksgiving; The Road Less Traveled Group,** Friday's, 8 PM., St. Francis Cultural Center off Rt 5 in Hamburg, Open Discussion.
- **New Meeting: Big Book Workshop,** Sunday's, 8:00 PM, Gahada Gon Trailer, 12698 Southwestern, Irving.
- **NEW Daily Meeting; Eyeopener South,** Monday – Sunday, 7 AM, Open Discussion, St. Mathias Church, Corner of Maple & Main St.
- **SOBER & PROUD, has changed from Saturday evenings to Friday's** at 9 PM @ Pride Center of WNY, 18 Trinity Place, Buffalo.
- **New Meeting: SHINING LIGHT",** Lafayette Presbyterian Church, 855 Elmwood Ave., Buffalo (west) 7 PM,

COMING EVENTS:

- ~ Nov. 29, Steering Committee, 6 PM, Central Office, 681 Seneca Street.
- ~ Dec. 3, Central Committee Meeting, SUNDAY, 7 pm, Buffalo Central Office, 681 Seneca Street (Hosted by 3 Legacies).
- ~ Dec. 3, Corrections Committee Meeting, SUNDAY, 6:00 PM, Buffalo Central Office, 681 Seneca Street (lower).
- ~ Dec. 3, New Frontiers Committee Meeting, SUNDAY, 6:00 PM, Buffalo Central Office, 681 Seneca Street (lower).
- ~ Dec. 11, Special Needs Committee, 6:30 PM, The Kenilworth Church of Christ Church, 45 Dalton St., Kenmore.
- ~ Dec. 11, Cold Springs will be celebrating its 35th Group Anniversary. Speaker & Eats. Friends of the Elderly Center, 118 East Utica St., Buffalo, 8PM.
- ~ Dec. 15, SILVERCREEK FRIENDSHIP GROUP CHRISTMAS PARTY- 8:30 pm, Speaker meeting followed by an eating meeting. Please bring a dish to pass. Also, please bring a \$5.00 unwrapped gift for gift exchange if you wish. Everyone is welcome. No one is obligated to bring a gift.
- ~ Dec. 18, Treatment Facilities Committee, MONDAY, 6 PM, Buffalo Central Office, 681 Seneca Street.
- ~ Dec. 21, Main & High Groups 8th Annual Christmas Vigil. 5:30pm - 10:30 pm. Lifetime Medical Center, 899 Main St. Bring and dish to share. Please come fellowship with us. Speakers at 5:45 PM & 7:45 PM.
- ~ Dec. 23, Archives Committee Meeting, SATURDAY, 9 am, Buffalo Central Office, 681 Seneca Street (lower).
- ~ Dec. 24, Lovejoy Groups Annual Christmas Vigil, at the Visitation Church on the corner of Moreland & Green St. 5:00 – 11:00 PM. Santa, Speaker, Food, Raffle, entertainment. Please, Bring a dish to share. Speaker.
- ~ Dec. 24, Christmas Vigil, Sponsored By Friends of Bill W. of District 7. Loot Center, 292 High Street, Buffalo. Doors open @ 4 PM, Dinner @ 6:00 PM, Round- Robin Speakers. For more information; Jim:- 491-8301 or Mildred M.: 886-6231, Donations gratefully accepted.

12th STEP: "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."

12th TRADITION: "Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place principals before personalities."

12th CONCEPT: The Conference shall observe the spirit of A.A. 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, by substantial unanimity; that its actions never be personally punitive nor an incitement to public controversy; that it never perform acts of government, and that, like the Society it serves, it will always remain democratic in thought and action.

PLEASE SUPPORT THE ENVELOPE SYSTEM

... Yours in the Fellowship of the Spirit... Terry Bateman.... Executive Secretary

Buffalo Central Committee Minutes
November 5, 2006

Frank M., Committee Chair, opened the meeting at 7:00 PM, with a moment of silence, the Serenity Prayer and the Preamble. Dan E., Carrying The Message Group, read The Purpose of the Central Committee. Gilbert R., Try Again Group, read the Traditions. Motion to dispense with the reading of last months' minutes by John H., Sunday Morning Breakfast Group, seconded by Jay H., North Buffalo Group. Motion passed.

21 Groups were represented: Dist. 1: Main and High; Dist. 2: North Buffalo, Survivors; Dist. 3: Abbott Men's Disc., Courage, New Life, Southgate, Sunday Morning Breakfast, Try Again, Valley; Dist. 4: Action; Dist. 5: Lockport #1; Dist. 6: Amsdell Lakeshore, Carrying The Message, Lakeshore; Dist. 7: Fresh Start, Lovejoy, Spirit Of Hope; Dist. 8: Amherst Snyder, Midnight Discussion, Williamsville.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

ENVELOPE SYSTEM: No report.

STEERING COMMITTEE: No report.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Scott T., Lakeshore Group read the report.

TREATMENT: Patti S., Chair, Going to Any Lengths Group: Meeting held on 11/05/06 at Central Office. Topics discussed: 1. The first Monday at Salvation Army is open. 2. I was in contact with Chris, Treatment General Service Chair and he will call the Inter Groups for Niagara, Wyoming, and NY Penn in regard to paying a share for the service of Bridging The Gap. 3. Guidelines are being submitted at this meeting for Central Committee to incorporate with their guidelines. 4. TFC Group Inventory meeting was conducted November 4 at 9 - 12:00 at Central Office. 5. Schedules distributed to facilities. 6. ECMC called again about starting a meeting on the psychiatric floor. TFC encouraged them to bring those patients that have a desire to stop drinking to the daily meeting held on the 9th floor. 7. Fall convention was covered by TFC.

RECTIONS: Peter gave report: There was a successful turnout at the convention; 8 people sat at the corrections table and 10 signed up to volunteer. We are asking home groups to send members to Erie County Correctional Wednesday nights at 8:00 p.m. If anyone is interested in volunteering for corrections, we have applications.

SCREENERS: No report.

CENTRAL OFFICE: AA INFO: 283; 12-STEP: 3; ALANON: 11; VISITORS: 106; VOLUNTEERS: 9.

The Central Office Seminar was very information. This year being in Akron, birthplace of AA, we had our first Archives workshops (2). They were very informative and gave me many ideas on how to best cooperate with our Archivist with current papers, etc. to help preserve them in the future. We also once again discussed the Central Office/Intergroup Pamphlet. Once again we really think a "Conference Approved: better serves AA." I am once again asking this body's approval to have the pamphlet presented as an agenda item for our delegate to present. Reminder that the office is closed for Veteran's Day on November 13th. We have new 'green cards' from World Services. They are on self-support. They are wonderful and free. They have also come out with the "12 & 12" on CD. Final cost for the seminar was \$376.94.

Yours in the fellowship of the Spirit
Terry B., Exec. Secretary

NEW FRONTIERS: No report

PIC: No report

CONVENTION COMMITTEE: Winston F., Chairman, gave a preliminary report. The final report will be presented at the December meeting.

WOC COMMITTEE:

Incorporation: No report.

Website: No report.

COURTESY REPORTS:

ARCHIVES: Tom B., Archivist: I would like to thank everyone who attended our open house, it turned out well and Ralph Z. for sharing his experience, strength and hope. We continue to meet the 4th Saturday of every month in the Central Office at 9:00 a.m. Our up-coming displays will be at Amherst Snyder, Friday November 17th. We are always looking for help on our committee, come on down to one of our meetings.

GSA: JoAnn McC: next meeting is November 12, hosted by Morganville, at Hamburg Town Hall

CPC: No report.

AREA 50 PIC: No report.

RECAP: Corrections: Mark, Co-chair, asked for latest information on convention. New Frontiers: Tom B., Archivist, asked that day of next Archives meeting be changed. Ad-Hoc – Incorporation: Patti S., asked for more information also stated that incorporation was voted in March 2006, needs update.

OLD BUSINESS: Much discussion on procedures proposal. A vote was taken: 18 no votes, 1 yes vote, and 2 abstained. Proposal to amend the procedures was defeated. No minority opinion.

NEW BUSINESS:

Nominations:

Co-Chair of Central Committee: Jay H., North Buffalo, was nominated by Scott T., Lakeshore Group. No other nominations. Nominations closed. Jay H. accepted.

Recording Secretary: Tina, Fresh Start Group was nominated by Charles L., Spirit of Hope Group. No other nominations. Nominations closed. Tina accepted.

District 3 Steering Committee: Tom G., Valley Group was nominated by Bill O., Valley Group. No other nominations. Nominations closed. Tom G. accepted.

District 4 Steering Committee: No nominations.

District 5 Steering Committee: Jack P., Lockport #1 will serve full 2 year term after being appointed to Committee.

District 6 Steering Committee: Dan, Carry The Message Group was nominated. No other nominations. Nominations closed. Dan accepted.

Motion to adjourn by Patti S., Going To Any Lengths Group, seconded by Bill O., Valley Group. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m. with The Lord's Prayer.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Recording Secretary, John H., Sunday Morning Breakfast.

Income Statement	30-Jun-06	31-Jul-05	31-Aug-05	30-Sep-05	31-Oct-05
Beg Bal Cash on hand	12,773.75	9,211.00	9,014.72	8,869.51	8,936.59
Contributions					
Groups	3,034.00	6,083.21	3,172.00	3,892.60	2,992.16
Joint Meeting	51.00	30.89	46.35	42.50	34.88
Envelope System	632.00	392.00	284.00	300.00	591.00
New Frontiers Subs	63.00	30.00	10.00	10.00	150.00
Literature	2,172.13	3,911.35	3,704.25	2,117.20	3,239.50
Literature Postage	37.90	108.85	46.85	47.65	49.55
Archives Room Rent	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00
Meetings at CO	103.82	91.00	116.00	115.25	169.00
Mail/Misc.	50.00			25.00	
US Treasury	82.99				
Reconcile					
"Gratitude Month" (NOV)					
Conventions/Day of Sharing					
Monthly Income	6,276.84	10,697.30	7,429.45	6,600.20	7,276.09
Expenses					
Office Rent	772.29	772.29	772.29	772.29	772.29
Electric	90.00	90.00	90.00	90.00	90.00
Payroll					
Salaries - gross	2,240.84	2,352.88	2,352.88	2,941.10	2,352.88
Federal Withholdings	(85.56)	(50.64)	(50.64)	(63.30)	(50.64)
NYS Withholdings	(123.16)	(92.60)	(92.60)	(116.00)	(92.80)
Disability Insurance	(2.40)	(2.40)	(2.40)	(3.00)	(2.40)
Payroll Tax Deposits					
Federal	588.60	-	505.84	632.28	505.84
State		509.24			416.31
Insurance					
State Ins Fund	8.06				
Health Liability	304.00	354.00	354.00	354.00	354.00
Postage	357.65	394.98	57.81	458.43	56.81
Phone	230.46	136.78	134.63	134.23	135.61
Accounting	1,900.00				
Advt					
PIC Lit					
Talking Phone Book					
Verizon	217.40	128.45	128.45	128.45	128.45
website					
white directory					
Yellow Pages					
Literature Expenses					
Grapevine		435.00			
World Services Inc	1,934.80	2,209.84	1,921.60	637.90	1,502.62
Hazeldon		789.04	409.96		
"In All Our Affairs"					
Printers		2,275.00			
Office Supplies	420.17	179.88	456.14	50.47	313.76
Answering service	143.50	126.10	135.07	125.82	141.32
Minolta leasing (copier)	260.45	260.45	260.45	260.45	280.45
Minolta Copies/ service contract	582.49	25.49	141.38	130.00	130.00
CD					
Seminar					356.97
Depreciation	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Monthly Expenses	9,939.59	10,993.58	7,674.66	6,633.12	7,471.47
Monthly Income (Loss)	(3,662.75)	(286.28)	(245.21)	(32.92)	(195.38)
Depreciation add back (non-cash)	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
End Bal Cash on hand	9,211.00	9,014.72	8,869.51	8,936.59	8,841.21
CD PRUDENT	8,271.15	8,312.11	8,332.34	8,353.28	8,374.28
CD#2 RESERVE	6,057.68	6,077.90	6,097.53	6,117.88	6,138.30
Literature Assets:	8,931.25	10,450.30	10,645.00	9,174.30	10,545.80
Literature Receivable:(outstanding)	929.00	706.75	648.80	601.40	607.50
Corrections Facilities	3,684.70	3,525.20	3,555.70	3,545.30	3,548.30
Contributions	300.00	353.00	245.00	194.00	292.07
Expenses	459.50	322.50	255.40	191.00	35.10
Balance	3,525.20	3,555.70	3,545.30	3,548.30	3,806.27
Treatment Facilities	1,908.42	1,678.92	1,440.32	1,572.59	1,798.85
Contributions	300.00	466.00	235.00	278.76	130.00
Expenses					
AT & T Bridging The Gap		53.85	32.27		75.62
AAA Abolt Answering Service	49.50	50.75	48.50	52.50	48.50
Literature	480.00	600.00	21.96		656.76
Balance	1,678.92	1,440.32	1,572.59	1,798.85	1,440.32

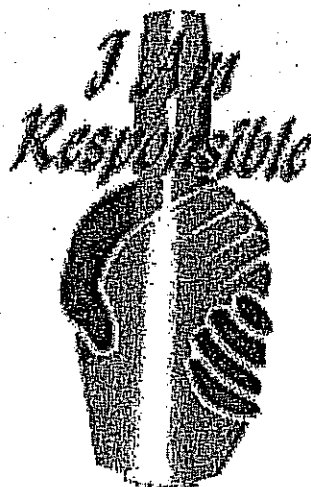
GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS

GROUP	CENTRAL	CORRECTIONS	TREATMENT
Yet Named	0.00	0.00	0.00
Women's	0.00	0.00	0.00
Wine Day At A Time	200.00	0.00	0.00
Open Arms	50.00	150.00	0.00
Open Mind	0.00	0.00	0.00
Orchard Park Step	530.00	0.00	0.00
Pass It On	0.00	0.00	0.00
Patchin	5.00	0.00	0.00
Pathway to Peace	0.00	0.00	0.00
Pendleton Chapter Five	0.00	0.00	0.00
Phonix	0.00	0.00	0.00
Positively Living/Ret.	150.00	1450.00	0.00
Powerless	45.00	0.00	0.00
Pride	92.00	0.00	0.00
Primary Purpose	10.00	0.00	0.00
Principles Bef. Personalities	150.00	0.00	0.00
Progress	0.00	0.00	0.00
Purpose/Tonawanda	0.00	0.00	0.00
Questions & Answers	30.00	50.00	0.00
Rainbow	25.00	75.00	0.00
Ray of Hope	0.00	340.00	0.00
Rec. Women in the BB	0.00	0.00	0.00
Recovery Near the Gardens	10.00	0.00	0.00
Redeemers	0.00	0.00	0.00
Reflections	0.00	0.00	0.00
Reflections on Recovery	0.00	0.00	0.00
Remember When	40.00	0.00	0.00
Renewal	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ride Sober	100.00	0.00	0.00
Ridge	0.00	0.00	0.00
Rise and Shine	0.00	0.00	0.00
Rochester	0.00	0.00	0.00
Roland	0.00	0.00	0.00
Rural is Plural	50.00	0.00	0.00
Sally	0.00	0.00	0.00
Saratoga	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sat. Night in Recovery	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sat. Nite Sober	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sat. Midnights	0.00	0.00	0.00
Searching For Serenity	100.00	300.00	100.00
Second Chance	0.00	0.00	0.00
Serenity	120.00	0.00	0.00
Serenity Circle	20.00	60.00	0.00
Sermy in the Park	0.00	0.00	0.00
Serenity on the Lake	0.00	0.00	0.00
Serenity Shack Nooners	0.00	0.00	0.00
Serenity Trails	0.00	0.00	0.00
Serene	100.00	100.00	0.00
Sheridan	240.00	0.00	0.00
Silvercreek Friendship	5.00	0.00	0.00
Sober and Proud	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sober Saturday	200.00	50.00	60.00
Sober Trails	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sober Winners	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sobriety Comes First	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sobriety for Women	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sobriety Men's Disc.	127.34	125.33	86.33
Sobriety On The Canal	20.00	70.00	0.00
Sobriety on a Sat. Night	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sobriety on the Lake	0.00	0.00	0.00
Solidarity	0.00	0.00	0.00
Somerset	0.00	0.00	0.00
South Buffalo	0.00	0.00	0.00
South Town	5.00	0.00	0.00
Southgate	70.00	10.00	10.00
Southwestern	50.00	102.00	0.00
Spirit of Hope	100.00	200.00	0.00
Spiritual Progress	0.00	0.00	0.00
Springville Sat Afternoon	60.00	0.00	0.00
Springville Tues. Night	120.00	0.00	0.00
Springville Wed. Noon	10.00	0.00	0.00
Springville New Life	40.00	0.00	0.00
St. Barnabas	0.00	0.00	0.00
St. Mark's	0.00	0.00	0.00
Starting Over	100.00	459.55	0.00
Staying Alive	0.00	0.00	0.00
Step Work	0.00	0.00	0.00
Stepping Stones/Gow	0.00	0.00	0.00
Stepping Stones/Wilt	50.00	0.00	0.00
Sunday Afternoon Ascension	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sunday Morning Breakfast	100.00	1100.00	0.00
Sunday @ 8:00	100.00	25.00	25.00
Sunday Nilers	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sunday Third Group	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sunrise Court	100.00	600.00	40.00
SUNY Anherst Campus	40.00	0.00	0.00
Surrender and Hope	300.00	50.00	75.00
Survivors	0.00	0.00	0.00
TGIFF	0.00	0.00	0.00
Thankful	290.00	0.00	0.00
The Book Meeting	0.00	0.00	0.00
The Legacies	146.95	146.95	146.95
So Too	53.31	0.00	0.00
Thruway	200.00	1250.00	20.00
Thurs. Nite Steppers	0.00	0.00	0.00
Thursday PM Discussion	300.00	0.00	0.00
Today	0.00	0.00	0.00

GROUP	CENTRAL	CORRECTIONS	TREATMENT
Today's Woman	95.00	0.00	0.00
Tri County	60.00	0.00	60.00
Tri-Step Beginners	0.00	0.00	0.00
Try Again	100.00	10.00	10.00
Tuesday Men's AM	200.00	0.00	0.00
Turning Point	12.30	64.30	0.00
Twin Cities	100.00	0.00	0.00
Unity	0.00	0.00	0.00
University Men's Disc.	0.00	0.00	0.00
Valley	100.00	0.00	0.00
Varleffes of Spiritual Exper.	0.00	0.00	0.00
Varysburg	5.00	6.00	0.00
Victory	200.00	0.00	0.00
Victory Women's	100.00	0.00	0.00
Wake Up Call	0.00	0.00	0.00
We Are Not Saints	0.00	0.00	0.00
We Care	210.00	70.00	140.00
We Don't Know	0.00	0.00	0.00
Wehrle	110.00	0.00	0.00
Westfield	40.00	0.00	0.00
Westminster	0.00	0.00	0.00
Why	25.00	0.00	0.00
Williamsville	0.00	0.00	0.00
Willing To Grow	610.00	0.00	0.00
Wilson Group	43.30	30.00	0.00
Wilson Smith Alumni	0.00	0.00	0.00
Women In Sobriety	0.00	0.00	0.00
Women's West Side	0.00	0.00	0.00
Working	0.00	0.00	0.00
You'll Never Walk Alone	0.00	0.00	0.00
Young at Heart	0.00	0.00	0.00
Youngstown	0.00	0.00	0.00
Allica	0.00	0.00	0.00
Anonymous	10.00	217.60	37.07
Frank & Margie P.	0.00	46.00	0.00
John H.	25.00	0.00	0.00
Della R.	19.55	0.00	0.00
Don K.	2.05	0.00	0.00
Dick G.	10.00	0.00	0.00
Robert K.	10.00	0.00	0.00
Tim F.	25.00	0.00	0.00
Malvin R.	260.00	0.00	0.00
Manjaretta A.	25.00	0.00	0.00
	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTALS	37603.46	292.07	2588.10
ATTENDED CENTRAL COMMITTEE			

An excerpt from Bill Wilson's greeting, celebrating the 10th Christmas in 1944

"Nor can men and women of AA ever forget that only through suffering did they find enough humility to enter the portals of that New World. How privileged we are to understand so well the divine paradox that strength rises from weakness, that humiliation goes before redemption; that pain is not only the price but the very touchstone of spiritual rebirth. Knowing its full worth and purpose, we can no longer fear adversity, we have found prosperity where there was poverty, peace and joy have sprung out of the very midst of chaos."



Interested in receiving the New Frontiers?

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

Enclosed is a check or money order made payable to the AA Central Office earmarked the "New Frontiers" for \$ _____ for _____ copies.

Rates:

1	copy	\$10.00	20 copies	\$57.00
2	copies	13.00	30 copies	75.00
5	copies	24.00	40 copies	95.00
10	copies	33.00	50 copies	120.00
15	copies	43.00	60 copies	135.00

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681 Seneca St.(lower)
Buffalo, New York 14210

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BUFFALO, NY 14210