

# NEW FRONTIERS

February 2000

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.

## GREETINGS FROM IRELAND

Dear Fellow Members,

I am Catherine and an Irish lady; I'm visiting my sister in Niagara Falls for the second time this year. I first went to an A.A. meeting in Niagara Falls in April and I'll never forget the welcome that I received. Needless to say when I came back in December 1999, my first phone call was to the friends I had met in A.A.

This fellowship has given me a life that I never thought possible, the freedom to go and do as I please. For a woman who drank for thirty years and has been in this fellowship just three I can see how far the members have brought me. I suppose I have to be the luckiest lady alive to find Alcoholics Anonymous when I did.

The faith and love that I have for my higher power God, as I know Him will keep me sober on a daily basis, because I ask Him daily to do. Let me take this opportunity to wish you all a happy, peaceful and sober holiday and to thank you all for keeping me sober this visit.

Dear God I know,  
How You must love me so.  
To give me such good friends as these  
They brighten my day  
By showing me the way.  
To live a life without fear.  
Each day when I wake,  
I ask God to take

Each hurt that I go through,  
And offer it up  
As a give of my love  
For the many gifts  
He gives me.

Yours in the fellowship  
Catherine M.  
Ireland



### Lincoln and Alcoholism

*On Washington's birthday, February 22, 1842, the church in Springfield, Illinois, was filled with members of a temperance society called the Washingtonians. It was what we call a Speaker Meeting. The speaker, Abraham Lincoln, a circuit judge. Lincoln's speech reveals an insight into our disease of alcoholism unknown to others of his time - or, been far too unpopular to voice. Thankfully, popularity was not high on the list of Lincoln's priorities. In those days drunkards were truly outcasts of society much like the lepers of biblical times. Below are a few excerpts from his speech that night. To read them reflectively would be a fitting and productive way to celebrate his birthday this February 12th. He spoke:*

#### ABOUT THE GOD ALCOHOL:

"His citadels...his temples and his altars, where the rites of his idolatrous worship have long been performed and where human sacrifices long been wont to be made, are daily desecrated and deserted...For this new and splendid success we (Washingtonians) heartily rejoice."

Lincoln here is talking about their success in closing down the local bars of his day, "citadels" and "temples" he calls them. We AA's can surely relate to his concern over lives ruined by drink ("human sacrifices") in such places.

ABOUT THE "12TH STEP" EFFORTS OF THE WASHINGTONIANS:

"Those whom they desire to convince and persuade are their old friends and companions. They know that they are not demons, nor even the worst of men; they know that generally they are kind, generous and charitable, even beyond the example of their staid and sober neighbors. They (the Washingtonians) are practical philanthropists; and they glow with a generous and brotherly zeal."

ABOUT RECOVERING ALCOHOLICS TELLING HOW IT WAS, WHAT HAPPENED AND WHAT IT IS LIKE NOW:

"When one has been known as a victim of intemperance bursts the fetters that have bound him, and appears before his neighbors "clothed in his right mind" (Mark 5: 20), a redeemed specimen of long-lost humanity, and stands up with tears of joy trembling in his eyes, to tell of the miseries once endured, now to be endured no more forever; of his once naked and starving children, now clad and fed comfortably, of a wife long weighed down with woe, weeping and a broken heart I now: restored to health, happiness and a renewed affection; and how easily it is all done, once it is resolved to be done; how simple his language! - there is a logic and an eloquence in it that few with human feelings can resist...nor can his sincerity in any way be doubted, or his sympathy for those he would persuade to imitate his example be denied."

ABOUT RECOVERY: "(Recovery) requires a most powerful moral effort. In such an undertaking (the alcoholic) needs every moral support and influence that can possibly be brought to his aid and thrown around him. In my judgment such of us as have never fallen victims have been spared more by the absence of appetite (craving) than from any mental or moral superiority over those who have. Indeed if we take habitual drunkards as a class, their head and their hearts will bear an advantageous comparison with those of any other class." (Underlining mine.)

*Here we see Lincoln's deep understanding of our disease as he says that alcoholics have a physical appetite for liquor that others have not, that they are not mentally or morally inferior. This statement, that alcoholics may be the equals in head and heart with any other class of society, was not popular with most temperance advocates of his day.*

Neil C.,  
Kensington Discussion Group

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*From Behind the Walls*

Dear Friends

Hello again from the Reformers Group. We would like to thank you once again for an outstanding publication. Our group holds what we call a "literature meeting" every Saturday morning. Quite often we can find an interesting topic or letter in the "New Frontiers" to read and discuss. We thank you.

Also we would like to inform you that Jeff S. will celebrate 9 months of continuous sobriety in the month of February. Thank you for your continued support.

The Reformers Group

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TREATMENT FACILITY COMMITTEE

The primary purpose of a treatment facilities committee is the same throughout the United States and Canada, to carry the A.A. message to the alcoholic who still suffers. There is probably no better place for an A.A. member to find a suffering alcoholic than in a treatment facility. According to the A.A. 1996 Membership Survey, 40% of our members came from treatment facilities. Carrying the message to alcoholics in treatment is basic Twelfth Step work-sharing experience, strength and hope-giving it away in order to keep it!

What we do is carry the message to alcoholics in Treatment Facilities (Rehabs and Detox units) in the Buffalo area. The T.F.C. is a group of A.A.s who chair meetings at facilities throughout

the area where we have been invited by the facility to share our experience, strength and hope with clients who are less fortunate than ourselves. All of our meetings are strictly open meetings and are treated as a twelfth-step work. Chairpeople arrange for speakers to share their experiences of how they got sober and continue to stay sober. A.A. pamphlets and literature are provided to Treatment Facilities where we have meetings and to places we don't have meetings. Literature is bought with money, which is sent to the T.F.C. from groups that contribute so we can better serve the alcoholic who still suffers.

We have recently formed a program called Bridging The Gap, which is a temporary contact program whereby patients being discharged from treatment facilities will be put in touch with A.A.s who volunteer to get them to their first meeting on the outside, introduce them to other A.A.s at the meeting, and explain the importance of joining a home group and finding a sponsor. Men are paired with men, and women are paired with women; and wherever possible, the volunteer will be paired with a newcomer from the immediate area of his or her home group. We currently have about 25 volunteers willing to serve as temporary contacts, but need more in order to cover more home groups in different areas around Buffalo. If you would like to volunteer, there are Bridging The Gap brochures in most literature racks, which explain the program in more detail, or you can call Central Office at 716 853-0388. It is a good way to perform basic twelfth-step service.

I know a Treatment Facility played a very important role in our recovery and we have seen many people recover from this dreadful disease and their journey began in a Treatment Center. The Treatment Facilities Committee is always looking for people to help us carry the message of Hope to those still struggling with this disease. We encourage people who might have as little as an hour a month free to consider getting involved. We also encourage Groups to get involved by having a group representative attend T.F.C. meetings and/or chair a meeting once a month. We need Help and we need feedback from Groups on how we might better serve the still sick and suffering ALCOHOLIC.

For anyone interested in becoming involved, the Treatment Facility Committee meets the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6:30 PM at Saint Paul's United Church, 49 Indian Church Rd. Buffalo, N.Y. (Iron Horse Group).

Treatment Facility Committee (TFC)

F.Y.I. From Your Delegate

Trusting Our Future To AA Principles is the theme of the 50<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference in New York City, April 30 – May 6, 2000. I'm Mike B., and I am an Alcoholic, my home group is the Lodge Group in East Arcade, New York. That's in Wyoming County. It is my privilege to serve as your Panel 50 Delegate for Area 50. Area 50 takes in Niagara, Erie, Chautauqua, Cattaraugus, Allegany, Wyoming and a small section of both Genesee and Orleans Counties. Also at the present time Area 50 includes part of the border counties in Pennsylvania – Warren, Potter, McKean, Elk and Tioga.

It's a big area and there are 303 registered groups and 23 districts, approximately 5,810 members. This area's contributions to GSO were approximately \$12,253.43 last year or \$2.10 per reported group member. The groups in Alaska, Northwest Territories and Puerto Rico gave more per member. Have we been doing our share? I'm not here to criticize or pass judgment just to inform. As we start the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, is it time for us to inventory our past deeds and actions. Alcoholics Anonymous is having its 65<sup>th</sup> birthday in Minneapolis, June 28-July 2, 2000. Anywhere from 40,000-60,000 sober members of AA will be there, will you? It's a spiritual experience you shouldn't miss it, if you can somehow get there. Registrations is \$85, you can get a registration form from Central Office or the AA website or from your group's GSR. You do have one don't you? If not find out why or become one! That's it for this session, see you at the area assemble, March 12, Hamburg.

Mike B., Lodge Group, Delegate

## HOPE

*"Came to believe that a power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity."*

As a spiritual concept, Hope can be the brilliance of life in a recovery light. The shadows cast from active alcoholism can be lifted and perceptions are able to be molded or changed. The notions that I am no longer alone and that I belong to a Power greater than myself relieves the burdens of being an active alcoholic. Help is out there if it is sought.

Hope is having faith outside of "little ole me". Self-reliance had driven me to that gate of insanity, near the misery of alcoholic death. Holding onto the hope of a new life and new freedom started to fill that void that had swallowed me whole.

There seemed an uplifting of that beaten spirit saying in a loud thundering voice that said that recovery is possible. The world isn't as bad as it once had appeared. Fear subsides into wonder and blessings that were always there for the taking and are real.

Those insane barriers seem smaller and simpler to overcome. Trusting now is a tool that I can use in everyday life. Gone are those suspicious feelings replaced with the feeling that things are in my Higher Power's hands, He know best. Having faith and trust in God gives strength and courage to live life to its potential.

With hope the framework for faith is laid upon solid foundation, believing that a Power greater than myself can bring me from insane alcoholic torture gives the way for God to work in my life.

Arnie J., Sunrise Court

### *Essays on the Second Tradition*

*For our group purpose, there is but one ultimate authority*

*A Loving God as He may express himself in our group conscience.*

*Our leaders are but trusted servants, they do not govern.*

Reaching a group conscience often runs deeper than just a peaceful meeting where everyone expresses their opinion and it is immediately evident what path the group agrees to take.

No, it has been my experience, we often learn about others and ourselves in the midst of conflict. Through the expression of differing opinions we realize a group conscience is sometimes just the middle of the road. Most often though, the process helps us all see other people's opinions and that is again part of the process of growing up that the alcohol stole from us.

Recently I was involved in a situation full of conflict and to see the group conscience emerge was like seeing a miracle occur. Don't miss it, get involved.

Marie S., Powerless

### *Another View . . .*

When I came in to Alcoholics Anonymous I had no clue to the steps and traditions. I saw men and women sharing their experience. The older members in my group, are the guys who are actively involved in service. When I saw their peace and serenity, I knew I was in it for the long run, what I didn't know was the work that was going to be involved. I didn't realize they were there to show me it would work for me too. I had been given my first job there it was to call my sponsor daily, second was to attend my home group, and my third job was the anniversary chairmen. I was given that responsibility from one of the older members; who is my sponsor's sponsor. In the tradition he is called deacon. They are trusted servants they do not govern, they do not control any one, and they

lead by example. I had a job to do. I was to learn where to get the coins the cards and what to say when I got up and said my name is and I am the anniversary chairman for this group. Today I work the steps; I practice the principles in all my affairs. The second Tradition: for our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority a loving god as he may express himself in our group conscience. Everyone has to decide what is good for the group as a group, when that has been accomplished, then a conscience has been taken. I am still new. I learn every day. When I sit down at a meeting and a group conscience has already been taken (from our very first AA meeting) I am there for new person to show him it can work for him like it works for me on a daily basis. That is my job today as a trusted servant.

Grateful member of Alcoholics Anonymous  
Carl K., Downtown Men's

### The Twelve Concepts for World Service

Concept II: All right everyone...recite from memory Concept II. OK here it is from the book *The A.A. Service Manual*: "When, in 1955 the AA groups confirmed the permanent charter for their General Service Conference, they thereby delegated to the conference complete authority for the active maintenance of our world services and thereby made the conference – excepting for any change in the Twelve Traditions or in Article 12 of the Conference Charter – the actual voice and the effective conscience for our whole Society."

Concept II explains that the authority and responsibility of all AA rests on the group conscience of the General Service Conference. This authority isn't absolute. No changes may be made in the 12 Traditions or in Article 12 of the Conference Charter. We have all heard the Twelve Traditions read at meetings, and mostly understand their importance to us AAs as a whole. But who about this Article 12 of the General Service Charter? What makes it as sacred to the Conference as the Traditions? Article 12, also called the General Warranties of the Conference; explain that the attitude, which presides over our yearly General Service Conference, is one of humility. The Charter can be found beginning on page S26 of the *Service Manual*. Our co-founders followed Article 12 with this sentence..."The principals on which this Charter operates are outline in "Twelve Concepts" and should be read. I never counted 'musts' but that is one strong 'should'.

In April of every year each delegate area in the US and Canada sends it's delegate to the General Service Conference. Why? What do they do? What can they not do? How does this affect me? As a member of a home group trying to live sober, what difference can I make?

Our Area 50, WNY, is sending Mike B., to the 50<sup>th</sup> General Service conference. He was approved for this hour by our own Assembly, which in turn is chosen by (ideally) every group in our area. The issues that the 50<sup>th</sup> Conference will work with, have been brought to them from the group conscience of many widespread home groups throughout the US and Canada. A loving God will express Himself to the Conference as delegates.

Your input is still possible and even necessary. Our area (50, remember?) General Service Assembly is having a pre-conference meeting April 9 at 1:00 pm in the lower floor (real AA) of the Hamburg Town Hall. This is an opportunity to send Mike with your input read to express itself in the group conscience of a meeting of essentially US and Canadian AA. Be there in spirit.

Jim B., Ridge Group  
Darlene W., Ridge Group

## Carrying On and On and On and On

They call us "Oldtimers." Usually, it is with affection and admiration for self-admitted alcoholics who have lived for decades without alcohol. We are a source of wonderment, especially to "newcomers" struggling to get a few sober days back-to-back. After all, most alcoholics die drunk. Sad, but true. Old-timers are survivors of a small minority worldwide.

Occasionally, the term "Old-timers" is used derisively with contempt for those who apparently choose to forget where they came from; who forget to be grateful for the precious gift of a sober life and benefits obtained through A.A.; who don't practice what they used to preach, and who cease to "carry the Message" to alcoholics who still suffer:

But many are pure alcoholics who feel alienated and out-of-place with those who identify themselves as "addicts" with little or no mention of alcoholism. I should pray for them and not judge them. When Oldtimers crash, they crash hard. I don't want to die of "Oldtimers Disease."

I'm now in my 70s with major health problems. I've been close to "Exit" a few times and amazed that I'm still alive. During my teens and early 20s, I would lay drunk in empty lots and think: This is the way I am going to die...drunk, alone and in the gutter. I did not expect to reach 30, and did not want to at that stage. As Frank L. of Amherst-Snyder used to say: "It just so happens...for some unknown reason..." Gene O. is still here and enjoying each precious day. Frank L. was my dear sponsor.

I first came to A.A. nearly 52 years ago in 1948 at age 21. A childhood friend found me staggering drunk in Downtown Buffalo and took pity on me. He turned me over to a wise and holy priest who ministered to me spiritually, who then turned me over to a wise and caring physician; who then turned me over to A.A. I had been a compulsive drinker since early childhood with serious troubles since mid-teens.

My first official AA meeting was in the alcoholic ward of the old Meyer Hospital, the abandoned building with rusty bars that still stands on the ECMC campus. Vince M. was the speaker. I was impressed.

My first "outside" A.A. meeting was at Main-High St., at the Salvation Army. I was weak, shaky and fearful as I climbed that long, wide stairs. At the top, a "sober alcoholic" called "Crackers" (Jim C., rest in peace) welcomed me and handed me a wallet-sized 12 Steps and 12 Traditions with the Serenity Prayer. Although muddled, I was awestruck by the words and believed that they were God given.

I attended meetings with Les. P., my original sponsor, at Meyer Hospital, Johnson Park and the North Buffalo Group next to St. Francis Hospital. I didn't last long, however, feeling out-of-place because of my youth. In 1948, there were few meetings, few women members and very few "Young People." My first relapse lasted nearly four years; the second, two years after two years of sobriety. Then, after five years of AA sobriety, I became complacent, stopped asking God for help each day and forgot to thank him. On "Pearl Harbor Day", December 7, 1960, Gene O. got "bombed" for the last time (hopeful). I accepted a cocktail at a Christmas party and got paralyzed drunk. My "unconditional surrender" took place on my knees 39 years ago and I have not had a drink since, praise God. When tempted, I "Remember Pearl Harbor"!

A few months ago, I spoke at the Main-High Group next to where I attended my first "outside" AA meeting nearly 52 years ago. My childhood friend, Charlie, who had taken pity on me at age 21 and was instrumental in my AA recovery, accompanied me.

We all have had so many "divine coincidences" in our lives that it is hard not to believe in a Power greater than ourselves. At every A.A. meeting around the world, you see living, breathing evidence of a loving, healing, restorative Power changing seemingly hopeless lives for the better. To me, the most important part of A.A. recovery is prayer for a divinely guided sane and sober life. Any good

and precious thing that I have or do or hope to be depends upon my sobriety. Experience has taught me that my recovery and survival depend upon God.

Faith is a gift, but we can ask for it and be receptive to it. The best appliance in the world will not work until you plug it into the source of power. At least, become willing to open the door a crack and let the Power in. "I stand at the door and knock." A.A. works if you work it. Individuals, including Oldtimers, can fail for various reasons, but the Program does not fail. The Program is God-given, and all healing comes from God.

We can all remember Christmases that were not so merry and New years that were not happy because of alcoholism. In A.A., we make our resolutions and progress "one Day at a Time." If we sincerely and honestly try to learn and follow God's will through daily prayer and the Program, our days and lives will be blessed, no matter what happens.

Gene O., Grand Group

## Fellowship Announcements

**IN MEMORIAM**  
T.Y. Edwards of the Cold Spring Group

The Kensington Group will celebrate their 28<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on Tuesday, February 22, 7:45 pm, 261 Cleveland Drive, Cleveland Hill Lutheran Church. Please join them in fellowship and refreshments.

The Members of the Any Age group will be holding their annual "Blizzard Ball" on February 5, 2000. Doors will open at 7:00 pm, speaker at 8:00 pm, music and dancing. Pizza, Pop, Coffee, giant 50/50. \$5 donation.

### The Lake Shore Group

Will honor their Group Anniversary, February 28th.  
5538 1 Old Lake Shore Road, Hamburg  
Speaker and food, bring a dish if you wish.



### Do You Just Belong?

Are you an active member  
The kind that would be missed?  
Or are you just contented  
That your name is on the list?

Do you take an active part  
To help the work along?  
Or are you satisfied to be  
The kind that just belong?

Please come to the meetings often  
And help with hand and heart  
Don't be just a member  
But, take and active part.

Do you attend meetings  
And mingle with the flock?  
Of do you meet in private  
And criticize and knock?

Do you work on committees  
To this there is no trick Or  
leave the work to just and a few  
And talk about the clique?

Think this over members  
And you what's right from wrong  
Are you an active member  
Or do you just belong?

Anonymous

# ANNIVERSARIES

## Amherst/Snyder

Larry B. 3 m  
 Jim S., Jr. 3 m  
 Bob V. 3 m  
 Nancy R. 6 m  
 Roger A. 9 m  
 Mark L. 1 y  
 Dave Z. 2 y  
 Dave Z. 2 y  
 James W. 3 y  
 Neil S. 4 y  
 Sharon L. 10 y  
 Bob G. 11 y  
 Jim C. 15 y  
 Jim S. 16 y

## Cold Spring

Arnette K. 3 m  
 Henrietta H. 9 m  
 Kenneth H. 1 y  
 Sidney B. 4 y

## Courage

Beverly K. 4 y  
 April S. 7 y  
 Julie S. 15 y  
 Beverly B. 17 y  
 Florence F. 21 y

## Decisions, Choices, and Changes

Clarence H. 5 y  
 Roosevelt M. 6 y

## Fireside

Kim K. 6 m  
 Rick S. 4 y  
 Jose R. 4 y  
 Tom B. 7 y  
 John R. 9 y  
 George V. 12 y  
 Dale M. 16 y  
 Jay R. 18 y

## Fresh Start

Tyron H. 7 y  
 Pete A. 15 y

## H.A.N.D

Sean G. 2 y

## Happy Hour

John S. 2 y  
 David O. 2 y  
 Sheila B. 3 y  
 Andrew S. 4 y

Lorraine S. 4 y  
 Lawrence B. 5 y  
 Kevin H. 5 y  
 Lisa S. 5 y  
 Bruni G. 6 y  
 David W. 7 y  
 April S. 7 y  
 Miriam G. 7 y  
 Bill M. 8 y  
 Hope K. 9 y  
 Ava P. 10 y  
 Bob K. 10 y  
 Oliver H. 13 y  
 Sherry H. 23 y  
 George P. 48 y

## Honesty

Ronny V. 6 m  
 Terry McC 20 y

## Journey

Dave L. 1y  
 Roz S. 7 y  
 John G. 3 y

## Let Go & Let God

Carol B. 7 y

## Lovejoy

Tim P. 1 y  
 Mark W. 1 y  
 Tony S. 2 y  
 Sean G. 2 y

## Main & High

Phyliss B. 6 m  
 Nyree B. 9 m  
 Maria B. 1 y

## Matt Talbot

Victor C. 9 m  
 Marie F. 9 m  
 Vincent L. 9 m  
 Todd O.

## MOD/Living in the Solution

Roger C. 3 m  
 Jeremy J. 6 m  
 Michael D. 6 m  
 Larry M. 1 y  
 Will H. 1 y  
 Russ N. 2 y  
 Dennis B. 3 y  
 Bob K. 10 y

## North Buffalo

Jerry S. 3 m  
 Jim C. 3 m  
 Julie T. 6 m  
 Elena W. 6 m  
 Melissa L. 1 y  
 Sean M. 2 y  
 John S. 2 y  
 George F. 2 y  
 Ed O. 6 Y  
 Walter W. 9 y  
 Lyn T. 11 y  
 Rick L. 11 y  
 Wes K. 20 Y

## Positively Living

Jennifer T. 1 y  
 Donna I. 1 y  
 Richard K. 1 y  
 Era G. 1 y  
 Mary H. 1 y  
 Diana G. 2 y  
 Don C. 3 y  
 Geraldine D. 7 y

## Reformers

Jeff S. 9 m

## Ridge

Larry M. 1 y  
 Jose D. 1 y  
 Cheryl D. 2 y

## Rise & Shine

Jerry T. 3 m  
 Jim G. 6 m  
 Colleen K. 6 m  
 Celia D. 4 y  
 Pat C. 4 y

## Sheridan

Matt V. 6 m  
 Michelle S. 9 m  
 Mike C. 1 y  
 Jamie H. 2 y  
 Frank D. 2 y  
 Nathan C. 4 y  
 Justin J. 4 y  
 Robert S. 4 y  
 James B. 7 y  
 Paul D. 9 y  
 Larry P. 13 y

## Sunday Morning Breakfast

Joanne H. 6 m  
 Susan D. 6 m

Don F. 9 m  
 Pam B. 9 m  
 Max W. 13 y  
 Beverly K. 17 y

## Thruway

Don F. 9 m  
 Yogi J. 1 y  
 Jonathan B. 2 y  
 Jean H. 2 y  
 Elizabeth Z. 12 y  
 Dan T. 16 y

## We Care

Joe G. 3 m  
 John Z. 6 m  
 Martin S. 1 y  
 Tom B. 2 y  
 Bryan D. 4 y  
 Tim P. 5 y  
 Bill L. 5 y  
 Delores K. 18 y

## Women's Westside

### Discussion

Donna S. 9 m  
 Tonsa S. 4 y  
 Jennifer T. 1 y  
 Judy T. 10 y  
 Sue A. 18 y

## Group Anniversaries

Clarence Men's  
 Discussion II

Everybody's Group

Harmony

Lakeshore

Tri County

Wake Up Call

Please remember to  
 have the  
 anniversaries  
 submitted by the 10th  
 of the month  
 previous.



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FEBRUARY 2000

**PLEASE NOTE: ALL COMMITTEE MEETINGS OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS ARE OPEN TO ANYONE IN THE FELLOWSHIP.**

### NEW MEETINGS

**NEW FREEDOM** – Monday, 7 pm, 41 Main Street, ACNC/Lockview Plaza; Gay/Lesbian.

**"THOSE, TOO"** – Sunday, 1:00 pm, 12 Elmwood, Elmwood Clubhouse, Buffalo, Open. Elmwood Clubhouse is located adjacent to the Fire hall at Elmwood and Virginia.

### PLEASE NOTE

**GROUP INVENTORY SHEETS** – Have been included in the group monthly packet. Your Steering Committee Representative will be more than willing to help your group with this important inventory. Please call your rep and or Central Office for more information.

**CENTRAL OFFICE** hours are 9-5, Mon. – Fri. Please do not call the answering service to leave messages. Each call to the office after hours is billed and every call made by the service is also billed. The answering service responsibilities are to give info on meetings and to relay 12-step possibilities to the Screeners Committee.

**12 STEPS TO FREEDOM NOW** Saturdays, 6 pm; Freedom Now Complex, 3515 Roszyk Road, Machias; is no longer meeting.

**COLD SPRING** Monday 8:00 pm, C.A.O. Building is updating their membership for *all* members, please contact Christine before the meeting.

**DECISIONS, CHOICES, AND CHANGES** will be meeting for the last time February 10.

**NOTHIN' BUT THE BOOK** Thursday 8:00 pm, St. Rita's and Pat's, Fillmore at S. Division, needs support. Please stop in and share your experience, strength and hope.

**POSITIVELY LIVING II** Monday – Friday, 12:30 pm, 16 Linwood, Ascension Church, under new group conscience, please join us.

**SHERIDAN** Monday 8:00 pm is updating their files for active members.

### COMING EVENTS

- ~ Members of the **Mod/Living in the Solution** group are presenting alcohol related movies on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of the month at 8 pm; also *Charlie and Joe* "Big Book Study tapes" every Thursday at 8 pm; discussions will follow all meetings.
- ~ Feb. 5, members of the **Any Age Group** are sponsoring their 15th Annual Blizzard Ball at St. Andrews Church Hall, Elmwood at Sheridan. Doors open at 7 pm; no children under 12; tickets are \$5 per person; food and beverage will be provided; guest speaker at 8 pm.
- ~ Feb. 6, Sunday, **CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING**, St. Michael's Church Hall, 7 pm, 651 Washington Street.

- ~ Feb 6, Sunday, **Correctional Facility Committee**, St. Michael's Church Hall, 6 pm, 651 Washington Street.
- ~ Feb. 10, Thurs., **Decisions, Choices, And Changes** will be meeting for the last time. This will also be their 6th year anniversary, please join them for a speaker and food : Deaconess Hospital, 1001 Humboldt Parkway, Buffalo, 6 pm.
- ~ Feb. 12, Sat., **New Frontier Committee**, Central Office, 845 Ellicott Square, 10 am.
- ~ Feb. 12, Sat., Members of the **Mod/Living in the Solution** are sponsoring their annual dance. Speaker at 7; dancing at 8. Buddy Hinds will be playing, monies are to go to help support the Central Office.
- ~ Feb. 12, Sat., **Coop.w/Prof.Community**, Maryvale Pres. Ch., 425 Maryvale Dr. 9 am.
- ~ Feb. 13, Sun., **GSA Spring Convention Planning Meeting**, Hamburg Town Hall, S6100 South Park Avenue, Hamburg, 11:30 am.
- ~ Feb. 15, Tues., **Treatment Facility Committee**, St. Paul's, 49 Indian Ch. 6:30 pm.
- ~ Feb. 19, Sat., **NYS Informational Workshop** planning committee meeting, 10 am. Ellicott Square conference room 117, 295 Main Street.
- ~ Feb. 23, Wed., **Everybody's Group** is celebrating its 16<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Speaker, Food, Fellowship! All are welcome.
- ~ Feb. 25-27, 2000, **NERASSA**, Greenbelt, Maryland.
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- ~ June 29 - July 2, 2000, **International Convention**, Minneapolis, Minnesota.
- ~ August 4-6, **NYS Informational Workshop**, UB's Amherst Campus.



# ANNIVERSARIES

## Amherst/Snyder

Larry B. 3 m  
 Jim S., Jr. 3 m  
 Bob V. 3 m  
 Nancy R. 6 m  
 Roger A. 9 m  
 Mark L. 1 y  
 Dave Z. 2 y  
 Dave Z. 2 y  
 James W. 3 y  
 Neil S. 4 y  
 Sharon L. 10 y  
 Bob G. 11 y  
 Jim C. 15 y  
 Jim S. 16 y

## Cold Spring

Arnette K. 3 m  
 Henrietta H. 9 m  
 Kenneth H. 1 y  
 Sidney B. 4 y

## Courage

Beverly K. 4 y  
 April S. 7 y  
 Julie S. 15 y  
 Beverly B. 17 y  
 Florence F. 21 y

## Decisions, Choices, and Changes

Clarence H. 5 y  
 Roosevelt M. 6 y

## Fireside

Kim K. 6 m  
 Rick S. 4 y  
 José R. 4 y  
 Tom B. 7 y  
 John R. 9 y  
 George V. 12 y  
 Dale M. 16 y  
 Jay R. 18 y

## Fresh Start

Tyron H. 7 y  
 Pete A. 15 y

## H.A.N.D

Sean G. 2 y

## Happy Hour

John S. 2 y  
 David O. 2 y  
 Sheila B. 3 y  
 Andrew S. 4 y

Lorraine S. 4 y  
 Lawrence B. 5 y  
 Kevin H. 5 y  
 Lisa S. 5 y  
 Bruni G. 6 y  
 David W. 7 y  
 April S. 7 y  
 Miriam G. 7 y  
 Bill M. 8 y  
 Hope K. 9 y  
 Ava P. 10 y  
 Bob K. 10 y  
 Oliver H. 13 y  
 Sherry H. 23 y  
 George P. 48 y

## Honesty

Ronny V. 6 m  
 Terry McC 20 y

## Journey

Dave L. 1y  
 Roz S. 7 y  
 John G. 3 y

## Let Go & Let God

Carol B. 7 y

## Lovejoy

Tim P. 1 y  
 Mark W. 1 y  
 Tony S. 2 y  
 Sean G. 2 y

## Main & High

Phylliss B. 6 m  
 Nyree B. 9 m  
 Maria B. 1 y

## Matt Talbot

Victor C. 9 m  
 Marie F. 9 m  
 Vincent L. 9 m  
 Todd O.

## MOD/Living in the Solution

Roger C. 3 m  
 Jeremy J. 6 m  
 Michael D. 6 m  
 Larry M. 1 y  
 Will H. 1 y  
 Russ N. 2 y  
 Dennis B. 3 y  
 Bob K. 10 y

## North Buffalo

Jerry S. 3 m  
 Jim C. 3 m  
 Julie T. 6 m  
 Elena W. 6 m  
 Melissa L. 1 y  
 Sean M. 2 y  
 John S. 2 y  
 George F. 2 y  
 Ed O. 6 Y  
 Walter W. 9 y  
 Lyn T. 11 y  
 Rick L. 11 y  
 Wes K. 20 Y

## Positively Living

Jennifer T. 1 y  
 Donna I. 1 y  
 Richard K. 1 y  
 Era G. 1 y  
 Mary H. 1 y  
 Diana G. 2 y  
 Don C. 3 y  
 Geraldine D. 7 y

## Reformers

Jeff S. 9 m

## Ridge

Larry M. 1 y  
 Jose D. 1 y  
 Cheryl D. 2 y

## Rise & Shine

Jerry T. 3 m  
 Jim G. 6 m  
 Colleen K. 6 m  
 Celia D. 4 y  
 Pat C. 4 y

## Sheridan

Matt V. 6 m  
 Michelle S. 9 m  
 Mike C. 1 y  
 Jamie H. 2 y  
 Frank D. 2 y  
 Nathan C. 4 y  
 Justin J. 4 y  
 Robert S. 4 y  
 James B. 7 y  
 Paul D. 9 y  
 Larry P. 13 y

## Sunday Morning Breakfast

Joanne H. 6 m  
 Susan D. 6 m

Don F. 9 m  
 Pam B. 9 m  
 Max W. 13 y  
 Beverly K. 17 y

## Thruway

Don F. 9 m  
 Yogi J. 1 y  
 Jonathan B. 2 y  
 Jean H. 2 y  
 Elizabeth Z. 12 y  
 Dan T. 16 y

## We Care

Joe G. 3 m  
 John Z. 6 m  
 Martin S. 1 y  
 Tom B. 2 y  
 Bryan D. 4 y  
 Tim P. 5 y  
 Bill L. 5 y  
 Delores K. 18 y

## Women's Westside

### Discussion

Donna S. 9 m  
 Tonsa S. 4 y  
 Jennifer T. 1 y  
 Judy T. 10 y  
 Sue A. 18 y

## Group Anniversaries

Clarence Men's  
 Discussion II

Everybody's Group

Harmony

Lakeshore

Tri County

Wake Up Call

Please remember to have the anniversaries submitted by the 10th of the month previous.

*BUFFALO CENTRAL OFFICE*  
*ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS*  
(716) 853-0388  
(716) 853-0389 FAX

*845 ELLICOTT SQUARE*  
*295 MAIN STREET*  
*BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14203*

FEBRUARY 2000

**PLEASE NOTE: ALL COMMITTEE MEETINGS OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS ARE OPEN TO ANYONE IN THE FELLOWSHIP.**

**NEW MEETINGS**

**NEW FREEDOM** – Monday, 7 pm, 41 Main Street, ACNC/Lockview Plaza; Gay/Lesbian.

**"THOSE, TOO"** – Sunday, 1:00 pm, 12 Elmwood, Elmwood Clubhouse, Buffalo, Open. Elmwood Clubhouse is located adjacent to the Fire hall at Elmwood and Virginia.

**PLEASE NOTE**

**GROUP INVENTORY SHEETS** – Have been included in the group monthly packet. Your Steering Committee Representative will be more than willing to help your group with this important inventory. Please call your rep and or Central Office for more information.

**CENTRAL OFFICE** hours are 9-5, Mon. – Fri. Please do not call the answering service to leave messages. Each call to the office after hours is billed and every call made by the service is also billed. The answering service responsibilities are to give info on meetings and to relay 12-step possibilities to the Screeners Committee.

**12 STEPS TO FREEDOM NOW** Saturdays, 6 pm; Freedom Now Complex, 3515 Roszyk Road, Machias; is no longer meeting.

**COLD SPRING** Monday 8:00 pm, C.A.O. Building is updating their membership for *all* members, please contact Christine before the meeting.

**DECISIONS, CHOICES, AND CHANGES** will be meeting for the last time February 10.

**NOTHIN' BUT THE BOOK** Thursday 8:00 pm, St. Rita's and Pat's, Fillmore at S. Division, needs support. Please stop in and share your experience, strength and hope.

**POSITIVELY LIVING II** Monday – Friday, 12:30 pm, 16 Linwood, Ascension Church, under new group conscience, please join us.

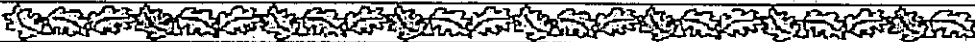


**SHERIDAN** Monday 8:00 pm is updating their files for active members.

**COMING EVENTS**

- ~ Members of the **Mod/Living in the Solution** group are presenting alcohol related movies on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of the month at 8 pm; also *Charlie and Joe* "Big Book Study tapes" every Thursday at 8 pm; discussions will follow all meetings.
- ~ Feb. 5, members of the **Any Age Group** are sponsoring their 15th Annual Blizzard Ball at St. Andrews Church Hall, Elmwood at Sheridan. Doors open at 7 pm; no children under 12; tickets are \$5 per person; food and beverage will be provided; guest speaker at 8 pm.
- ~ Feb. 6, Sunday, **CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING**, St. Michael's Church Hall, 7 pm, 651 Washington Street.

- ~ Feb 6, Sunday, **Correctional Facility Committee**, St. Michael's Church Hall, 6 pm, 651 Washington Street.
- ~ Feb. 10, Thurs., **Decisions, Choices, And Changes** will be meeting for the last time. This will also be their 6th year anniversary, please join them for a speaker and food at Deaconess Hospital, 1001 Humboldt Parkway, Buffalo, 6 pm.
- ~ Feb. 12, Sat., **New Frontier Committee**, Central Office, 845 Ellicott Square, 10 am.
- ~ Feb. 12, Sat., Members of the **Mod/Living in the Solution** are sponsoring their annual dance. Speaker at 7; dancing at 8. Buddy Hinds will be playing, monies are to go to help support the Central Office.
- ~ Feb. 12, Sat., **Coop.w/Prof.Community**, Maryvale Pres. Ch., 425 Maryvale Dr. 9 am.
- ~ Feb. 13, Sun., **GSA Spring Convention Planning Meeting**, Hamburg Town Hall, S6100 South Park Avenue, Hamburg, 11:30 am.
- ~ Feb. 15, Tues., **Treatment Facility Committee**, St. Paul's, 49 Indian Ch. 6:30 pm.
- ~ Feb. 19, Sat., **NYS Informational Workshop** planning committee meeting, 10 am. Ellicott Square conference room 117, 295 Main Street.
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## FEBRUARY 2000

Beginning Balance 1/26/00			\$1,551.04
<b>RECEIPTS</b>			
51 Groups Contributed	\$3,210.25		
Joint Meeting 2/5/00	52.00		
New Frontier Subscriptions	58.00		
Envelope System	986.00		
Literature	2,047.10		
Mailing/Copy Reimbursement	56.00		
Convention	2,078.45	\$8,487.80	\$10,038.84
<b>EXPENSES:</b>			
#10 Ellicott Court Corporation <i>Office Rent</i>	\$636.00		
St. Michael's Parish <i>Meeting Room Rent</i>	35.00		
Salaries	2,077.30		
Charter One/Federal Withholding	572.80		
Health Insurance	153.80		
State Insurance Fund	196.64		
Secrephone (Answering Service)	97.35		
Minolta Leasing/Copier	193.00		
Bell Atlantic	210.14		
Vermont Pure Springs	40.30		
World Services, Inc.	1,984.24		
Hazelden	855.19		
Office Depot	429.32		
Postage	315.00	(\$7,796.08)	
<b>Balance 2/25/00</b>			<b>\$2,242.76</b>
Money Market 1/26/00	\$1,098.75		
Interest Credit	1.85		
<b>Balance 2/25/00</b>			<b>\$1,100.60</b>
Certificate of Deposit			
<b>Balance 2/25/00</b>			<b>8,000.00</b>
Outstanding Invoices			1,713.01
<b>TOTAL CENTRAL OFFICE</b>			<b>\$13,056.37</b>
			
<i>Correctional Facilities 1/25/00</i>	236.74		
<i>Donations 1/26/00 - 2/25/00</i>	276.84		
<i>Expenses</i>		240.04	
<i>Bank Charge</i>		4.60	
<i>Balance 2/25/00</i>			278.14
			
<i>Treatment Facilities 1/25/00</i>	190.49		
<i>Donations 1/26/00- 2/25/00</i>	129.60		
<i>Expenses</i>		159.45	
<i>Bank Charge</i>		4.20	
<i>Balance 2/25/99</i>			156.41
			

I declare this statement to be true subject to review. Jim Brumbaugh, Financial Secretary.

GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2000

GROUP	Office		Correctional Fund		Treatment Fund	
		Accum.		Accum.		Accum.
We Care	30.00	60.00	10.00	20.00	20.00	40.00
Wehrle	25.00	25.00				
Westminster		50.00				
Willing to Grow		100.00				
Wilson Smith University Alumni	60.0	60.00				
Dick's Tees	10.00	10.00				
Pink Can			46.16	64.41		
<b>Group Contribution Total</b>	<b>\$3,210.25</b>	<b>\$6,608.70</b>	<b>\$ 276.84</b>	<b>\$ 456.39</b>	<b>\$ 129.60</b>	<b>\$ 402.15</b>
51 Groups Contributing						

GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2000

GROUP	Office	Accum.	Correctional Fund		Treatment Fund	
				Accum.		Accum.
Lighten Up		140.00				
Main & High		10.00				
Marilla	50.00	50.00				
Matt Talbot	50.00	50.00				
Medina New Life	20.00	20.00				
New Outlook/Albion		40.00				
Niagara Frontier Men's	150.00	150.00				
North Buffalo	100.00	200.00	25.00	50.00	25.00	50.00
North Java Groups		80.00				
One Day At A Time		275.00				
Perry Wed. Night Meeting	10.00	20.00				
Positively Living/Linwood		40.00				
Purpose	100.00	100.00				
Rainbow		25.00				25.00
Ray of Hope		50.00				
Remember	35.00	35.00				
Ridge		152.00				
Rochester Group		100.00				
Rural Is Plural		50.00		5.00		5.00
Searching for Serenity	100.00	150.00				
Serenity		100.00				
Serenity Circle	5.00	15.00				
Serenity Trail	27.50	27.50				
Sheridan		20.00				
Sober Saturday		24.60				
Southgate			20.08	20.08		
Southtown Women's	15.00	15.00				
Spirit of Hope		4.00		3.00		3.00
Spiritual Progress	50.00	50.00				
Starting Over	30.00	51.40				
Stepping Stones	40.00	40.00				
Suburban	10.00	20.00				
Sunday Third/Sheridan		25.00				
Sunrise Court				3.75		
Surrender & Hope	100.00	100.00				
Thruway	350.00	550.00	20.00	40.00	20.00	40.00
Thursday Afternoon Discussion		100.00				
TriCounty/Gowanda	10.00	45.00				
Tuesday Men's Discussion	40.00	40.00				
Tuesday Women		20.00				
University	120.00	120.00				
University Men's Discussion	125.00	125.00				
Valley	30.00	30.00				
Wake Up Call	36.00	36.00				

*Handwritten notes:*  
 20.08  
 20.08  
 10  
 not listed



GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2000

GROUP	Office	Correctional Fund		Treatment Fund	
		Accum.		Accum.	Accum.
Abbott Men		40.00		40.00	40.00
Action		40.00			
Amherst/Snyder		87.00			
Amsdell/Lakeshore	25.00	25.00			
Any Length	30.00	60.00			
Anybody's Group	40.00	40.00			
Attitude Adjustment	100.00	100.00			
Boulevard Women		75.00			
Blasdell Monday Nite	40.00	40.00			
Brass	20.00	30.00			
But For The Grace of God	35.00	35.00			
Came To Believe	14.75	14.75			
Cathedral Park		17.95			
Caz		4.00			
Cheektowaga	100.00	100.00	50.00	50.00	
Crossroads		109.00			
Easy Does It		25.00			
Everybody's	40.00	40.00			
Express		176.00			
Eyeopener		20.00			
Father Baker		100.00			
Fireside	301.00	301.00			50.00
First Things First	100.00	100.00			
Fredonia Discussion	60.00	60.00			
Freedom	25.00	50.00			
Georgetown		200.00			
Getting Better		7.00			
Giving			50.00	50.00	
Grand Group	20.00	20.00			
Grand II Joy of Living	100.00	100.00			
H.A.N.D	60.00	120.00			
Handicappers		150.00			100.00
Harmony	75.00	75.00			
Helping Hand	20.00	40.00			
High Noon	50.00	50.00			
Holland	90.00	90.00			
Honesty	30.00	60.00	10.00	20.00	
Intoxicated on Life	20.00	20.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
Ironhorse	46.00	141.50	4.60	14.15	4.60
Journey		80.00			
Keep It Simple, Sister		75.00			
Kensington Discussion	40.00	40.00			
Lake Shore		25.00	31.00	66.00	
Let Go and Let God		25.00			25.00

*Out of 130 in  
1/2000 listed*

**CENTRAL OFFICE:** Cindy N., Sunrise Court, Executive Secretary. The central office received the following number of calls, visitors, and requests for information:

AA Information	514
PIC	3
CPC	0
Al Anon	7
Ala Teen	1
ACOA	4
12 Step	5
Literature Requests	49
Fax In	3
Fax Out	9

<u>Mail</u>	
Pieces	693
Total Mail Cost	\$419.24
<u>Answering Service</u>	
Incoming Calls	190
Outgoing Calls	40
<u>Visitors</u>	
Visitors	178
<u>Volunteers</u>	
Volunteers	104

Only the groups that donate money will be put into the report to save on paper.

#### **AD-HOC REPORTS**

**1999 FALL CONVENTION,** Final report next month due to late money coming in.

**2000 FALL CONVENTION,** Charles L. Chairman (voice mail # 470-7363), 1st meeting Feb. 20th 1:00 PM. Marriott Hotel, second meeting March 19th

#### **COURTESY REPORTS**

**General Service Assembly:** Bob K. Area 50 Chairman reported that all three open positions have been filled. Congratulations to: Rich F., Iron Horse -TFC Chairman, Terry B., Lakeshore, PIC Chairman, and Tim T., International, CPC Chairman. Please inform all group GSRs to report to the next meeting, (March 12,2000 Hamburg Town Hall) to square away registration issues. A lot of mail is being sent back, correcting this problem would mean a more well informed home group. The next Spring Convention is being held at the Holiday Inn in Jamestown, April 7,8,9 2000.

**Public Information Committee:** Terry B. Lakeshore reports that the PIC meeting will be held the 3rd Saturday of the month at the Church of Holy Communion (where Lakeshore meets). Also she has an appointment set up for March 2nd at Action Human Resources.

**Cooperation with the Professional Griff N.,** Sunrise Court reports that CPC will meet Sat. March 2nd at 9:00 am where the Courage group meets. Also, TV and radio public service announcements were approved so start listening for those.

**RECAP-** Questions on the cost of our checking were asked Jim B. stated that our present account was cheaper than the one with "free" checking. Cindy also stated that we have free checking for one of our accounts but all accounts must be maintained at a certain level to achieve the greatest savings. This is not always possible. Keith of the Courage group asked about the inventory in the Central Office report, Cindy said that in the short time at the end of the month there isn't always the manpower to inventory everything, however it will be added to the report if it desired. Someone asked what a "bequest" was and Jim said it was when someone dies and leaves money to someone or thing.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Tabled until next month.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None.

Motion to adjourn made by Charles L., second by approved by all. Meeting closed at 8:09 pm with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted  
Mark S. Lakeshore Group  
Recording Secretary

The meeting opened at 6:30 pm. The following topics were discussed. The Bridging the Gap program is making progress. John G. was voted as committee co-chairman. Rich F. will coordinate a regular T.F.C. article for the New Frontiers. Rich F. was named T.F.C. coordinator for Area 50. All meetings are being covered at this time. Individuals and especially groups are encouraged to come forward and chair meetings as there are new openings all the time.

**SCREENERS:** John B., Lakeshore Group gave the report. John is presently trying to put a committee together to coordinate times and areas of people interested in screening and 12 stepping. He is also submitting a message for the announcements and the New Frontiers for those already involved with screening and for anyone new who wants get involved to call Central Office or J.B. at 549-7068.

**CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES COMMITTEE:** Bill L., We Care, Chairman. Meeting was held February 6, 2000. The meeting was attended by Bill L., Bill R., John K., Savannah W., Lucy L., Donna E., and Tim T. Meeting opened with the Serenity Prayer at 5:30 pm this evening.

Buffalo Work Release	No report
Gowanda	No report
Collins II	No report
Wende	No report
Niagara County Jail/Women	O.K.
Niagara County Jail/Men	O.K.
Erie County Holding Center	No report
Erie County Correctional Facility/Women	O.K., could use some help
Erie County Correctional Facility/Men	O.K.
Lakeview Incarceration Correctional Facility/Women	No report
Lakeview Incarceration Correctional Facility/Men:	No report

Old Business: Correction connection meeting will be held Feb 17th 6:45 pm at Rochester Central Office.

New Business: Questions on the proper way to drop pink cans off for corrections funding was discussed. John K. asked if it would be possible to add Orleans Correctional in Albion to our list for help. Tim T. said the meeting at 4th step Stumblers went well. Also could use help with Bridging the Gap. The meeting ended at 6:55PM.

**NEW FRONTIER:** Arnie gave the report. The meeting was held on Jan. 15, 2000 at Central Office. The following issues were discussed: The February issue was put together. No discussion on large-print edition, editor was not present. It was tabled until Feb. Incoming articles are very strong, thank you to those who submitted articles. Also proofreading will improve, apologies for errors.

**DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:** District #1, no report. District #2, Jay H. N. Buffalo, asked what are the principles and guidelines for groups holding benefits that raise money to help support Central committee. There was also a concern for groups holding giant 50-50's to pay for events. It was also mentioned that people are using group names to announce picnics without that groups consent or knowledge and then no one shows up. Another concern was with people starting groups and then walking away from them only to start more groups later. Are there guidelines for this? Does General Service have any input on this topic? Cindy N. called and reported that there were complaints regarding the 1110 group. The 11-10 group has been informed that there may be a conflict of interest. District #3 : Mike D., Abbott Men's no report. District #4: Scott T., Lakeshore Group, reported that he's trying to get representatives from each group to attend Central Committee. Also updating group information. Looking to see if there is any interest in having a day of sharing in early spring. Lakeshore celebrates 38 Year Anniversary last Monday of the month. Terry B. the new PIC chairperson also from Dist. #4 could really use some help getting started so anyone from that are that wants to get involved in service has a great opportunity to do so every third Sat. of the month at 10:00 at where the lakeshore group meets. (Terry B. 549-7068) District #5: no report. District #6 Dick L. reports everything is fine. District #7: Dave reports that the area is updating meetings. District #8 no report. District #9, no report, District # 10 no report.

Jul  
2000

### BUFFALO CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Dick L., Chairperson opened the meeting at 7:10 p.m. with a moment of silence followed with the Serenity Prayer. Jim read the Preamble. Followed by Tom reading the Purpose of the Central Committee, and the Traditions were read by Tom.

Motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes was made by Jim B. of the Ridge group, and second was made by Sandy M. of Serenity Circle.

**GROUPS IN ATTENDANCE:** DISTRICT 1: Downtown Men's Discussion, Easier Softer Way, Giving, Main & High, Miracle. New Westside, Positively Living II, Serenity Circle, Sunrise Court; DISTRICT 2: Acceptance/Welcome, Chapter IX, Earlybird, How It Works, Kenmore, Liberty Women's, North Buffalo, Why; DISTRICT 3: Abbott Men's, Cheektowaga, Iron Horse, Rainbow, Ridge, Victory, We Care; DISTRICT 4: Action, Hamburg, Lake Shore; DISTRICT 5: Just for today, Niagara Frontier Men's, Wilson, DISTRICT 6 Dunkirk; DISTRICT 7: Cold Spring, Ellicott, Harmony, Lovejoy, New Awakening, Pass It On, Remember When, Spirit of Hope; DISTRICT 8: Amherst Snyder, Kensington, Lighten Up, Renewal, Wehrle; DISTRICT 9: Anybody's, Everybody's, Rural is Plural; DISTRICT 10: No group represented.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

##### ENVELOPE SYSTEM, Darlene W., Ridge Group

	2000	2000 ytd	1999	1999 ytd	1998	1998 ytd
Jan	\$1,319	\$1,319	\$1,540	\$1,540	\$1,795	\$1,795
Feb			337	1,877	580	2,375
Mar			469	2,346	592	2,967
Apr			538	2,884	540	3,507
May			572	3,456	388	3,895
Jun			263	3,719	134	4,029
Jul			783	4,502	772	4,801
Aug			282	4,784	540	5,341
Sep			527	5,311	373	5,714
Oct			375	5,686	356	6,070
Nov			154	5,840	817	6,887
Dec			418	6,258	341	7,228
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,319</b>	<b>1,319</b>	<b>\$6,258</b>	<b>\$6,258</b>	<b>7,228</b>	<b>7,228</b>

**STEERING COMMITTEE** Meeting opened at 6:00 PM by Dick L. Districts represented: District #1, No one present; District #2, Jay H., North Buffalo; District #3, Mike D., Abbott Men's Disc.; District #4, Scott T., Lakeshore; District #5; No one present; District #6, Dick L., Dunkirk; District #7; No one present; District #8, Bob G., Amherst/Snyder; District #9, Tom O., Rural is Plural; District #10, Jerry B., Golden Slipper; Cindy N. Executive Secretary and guests.

The following topics were discussed. Cindy N. is working on a chart itemizing the last three years expenses so groups can see where monies go in hopes of increasing donations. Last month Don H., Amherst/Snyder discussed forming a traditions committee. It was decided that these things should go through General Service. If group members have questions about the traditions, the individual steering committee members should answer them. Scott T. notified the committee that the Public Information Committee (P.I.C.) will meet on the third Saturday each month at 10:00 am where the Lakeshore group meets (Church of Holy Communion Rt. 5, Hamburg). Also discussed were Cindy's pay scale and Jay H. mentioning groups concern with the seventh tradition. More on these next month.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:-** Jim B., Ridge Group, Financial Secretary reported, the full financial report with all details is available in writing, attached to the minutes. An attempt to find more inexpensive banking was made to the Greater Buffalo Bank. Their claim to "free" checking wasn't extended to their corporate accounts, which is where non-profit organizations fall under.

**TREATMENT FACILITIES COMMITTEE:** Pete F. Courage group, Chairman read the report. Meeting was held at St. Paul's United Church 49 Indian Church Rd. (where Ironhorse meets) on Jan. 18, 2000.