

# NEW FRONTIERS

January 2002

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.

## Alcoholics & Money

Recently, the Buffalo Central Office found itself in difficult financial circumstances. This has brought about much discussion and recrimination. Without going into the causes of this situation, I would like to share some thoughts.

When I got to AA, I threw a buck in the basket at every meeting. Not because I understood or even knew Alcoholics Anonymous was supposed to be self-supporting through its own contributions, but because I saw others doing it and didn't want them to think I was cheap. Anyway, I wasn't drinking and had more pocket money than I was used to, so I hardly missed the \$6 or \$7 a week. When I joined my home group and went to the business meeting, I was exposed for the first time to the Traditions of AA. At that meeting, I found out that each group divided the money left after basic expenses and sent the remainder to various places; i.e. GSO (NYC world HQ), GSA (WNY General Service Assembly), Buffalo Central Office, Treatment facilities committee, Correctional facilities committee. Each of these was dependent on contributions from groups just the way groups depended on individual donations.

Another benefit of that home group was the dedication to AA's program of recovery, the Steps. One of the first things apparent in my inventory was that self-centered fear manifested itself as soon as money was involved. There was much mention of "my pocketbook" and "my money" as I went through that process. Whenever someone wanted something from me, I tried to wiggle out; I usually felt I hadn't enough or I might need more later. These feelings were worst when money was sought. Pocket money was tangible and I never thought I had enough. I could always find a use for more money.

So, here we are a few years later, and I'm still throwing my buck in the basket. Then I see a flyer with the comparison of expenses from several years ago and the effects of inflation. The last line in the chart was my buck in the basket. Still a dollar. AA's expenses had gone up, but my contribution hadn't. I knew the point was I should drop more into the collection. Here came that fear again, the rationalizations and justifications, too. I could afford more, but I was used to a buck; AA doing OK; it's not just up to me, what about everyone else? What about 50-50 tickets? The group only gets half the money! Some people just buy a 50-50 and don't put any money in the basket!

It seems I thought of every reason not to put more money in, but none of the reasons why I should. My financial situation when I got here was horrible, and going down from there. One of the results of recovery is that I was able to become responsible and straighten out my money. Without GSO, GSA, Central Office and the rest, AA would not have been there for me. It's now my responsibility to ensure that the hand of AA can be there for the newcomer.

So, once again it turns out to be my inventory. It's up to me to do my part. It's not my business what everyone else does. My part seems to be to throw in a couple bucks when I can afford it and try to let others know that contributions from the groups are how the service structure of AA is supported. If you allow for inflation, donations in Buffalo are way down from 10 years ago. We need more money to do the same things. Think where you would be without AA, and follow your conscience.

Mike D.

## A Lesson in Listening

Had I known I was going to hear life-changing truth that day, some thirteen years ago, I might have dressed for the occasion or, at the very least, brushed my teeth. No...on second thought, it wouldn't have mattered much at all. I never listened anyway.

My clothes looked as though they had been pressed in a trash compactor, my hair...groomed with a power sander. I could still taste the acid trail of regurgitated Taco Bell, draft beer and cheap whiskey. I was sweating in forty-degree temperatures. My shoes weren't tied right. My shirt was missing two buttons. I stank. It was a pretty average morning, actually.

"You look horrendous," said Pat, sitting opposite me in the same booth.

"Thanks pal," I croaked. For as long as I had known him, Pat and I had carried on a strange dialogue of insults and wise cracks. I naturally thought his remark on my appearance was just another smart-mouthed throwing down of the gauntlet. I was in no mood to play, and too hungover and self-centered to realize that he wasn't either. He was trying to tell me the truth..

"You need a baby sitter," he continued. "You need someone to tell you what to do, and when to do it."

I was starting to get pretty angry. He was playing pretty rough.

"You're the only guy I know who can actually screw-up having fun! Why would you go out and get so drunk on a Tuesday night? Your life's a mess!"

Ouch, that hurt. I was fuming by now, but he wasn't finished yet.

"You can't stop drinking, can you?"

Because I was only hearing the insults and not the truth in what he said, I decided that Pat was no longer a friend. He, like everyone else, it seemed, had signed on with that foul alliance, whose solitary purpose was to perfect the conspiracy against me. In my mind, I had been betrayed yet again.

After thirteen years of progressive, alcoholic drinking I heard the voice of truth once again. I had no idea how many times it had called to me throughout my drinking years. I had been attending AA meetings for six, maybe eight months (I wonder if early sobriety will always be so foggy), and I was starting to wonder if I wasn't just wasting my time by listening to all of this recovery rhetoric.

The voice spoke through another AA member.

"EVERYTHING IN MY LIFE WAS TELLING ME NOT TO DRINK!" he shouted.

Yeah, me too. Everything. Former employers who found it so uncomfortable, yet necessary, to cut ties with me. Ex-girlfriends, all with the same patented speech: "*Your drinking scares me. I'm sorry you can't get your life together, but that doesn't mean I'm going to let you ruin mine.*" The bartender who cut me off because he told me he was sick of watching me kill myself. Angry creditors. Enraged motorists. Jilted landlords. Disgusted cops. All the way back to a morning in a restaurant with a well meaning friend who suspected that subtlety and kind words would have no effect on a drunk of my caliber. It was true...I couldn't stop drinking and I needed a babysitter. With less than a year of AA under my belt, I had deluded myself into believing that I was new to this concept of powerlessness over alcohol and unmanageable living. But the truth called once again, and it was at that moment I realized that the truth of the First Step was nothing new. It was long overdue.

AA wasn't my first opportunity for a decent sober life...it was (and is) my last. Whether it's phrased: *You're powerless over alcohol, and your life has become unmanageable*, or *You can't stop drinking, and you need a babysitter* is irrelevant. Thirteen years part, five thousand miles away, drunk or sober, happy or sad, alive or dead, the truth about the plight of the real alcoholic does not, and cannot be changed, whether that alcoholic is awake, showered, dressed...or not.

Better late than never, so for today...I'm listening.

Anonymous

**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:**

<b>1</b>	<b>Copy</b>	<b>\$10.00</b>	<b>20 Copies</b>	<b>\$57.00</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Copies</b>	<b>13.00</b>	<b>30 Copies</b>	<b>75.00</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Copies</b>	<b>24.00</b>	<b>40 Copies</b>	<b>95.00</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>Copies</b>	<b>33.00</b>	<b>50 Copies</b>	<b>120.00</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>Copies</b>	<b>43.00</b>	<b>60 Copies</b>	<b>135.00</b>

**Mail to the Central Office:**

845 Ellicott Square Building  
295 Main Street  
Buffalo, New York 14203-2412

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**God (My Higher Power)**

When I awaken each morn'  
For me a new day is born  
I start it with a prayer  
Give my will and life to the care  
Of a power that I cannot scorn

He watches o'er me through each day  
I try to stay out of the way  
The message He sends  
Comes to me from friends  
They tell me that all is okay

He gives me each day to live  
The best that I can and to give  
All that I can  
To my fellow man  
To help him just for today

The strength of my Higher Power  
Is with me each given hour  
He sends me His love  
From Heaven above  
To share with those who come my way

He does for me what I cannot do  
I must to mine own self be true  
Do what my heart says is right  
From morning 'till night  
Above all I must not harm you

Before I lay down in my nest  
I thank Him and ask Him for rest  
He gives all to me  
To be humble and free  
To keep faith in my God is the best

George H. -New Frontier Group

**Step 1. "We admitted we were powerless over alcohol -- that our lives had become unmanageable."**

We know that little good can come to any alcoholic who joins AA unless he has first accepted his devastating weakness and all its consequences. Until he so humbles himself, his sobriety—if any—will be precarious. Of real happiness he will find none at all. Proved beyond doubt by an immense experience, this is one of the facts of AA life. The principle that we shall find no enduring strength until we first admit complete defeat is the main taproot from which our whole Society has sprung and flowered.

Twelve and Twelve p.21

If we are planning to stop drinking, there must be no reservation of any kind, nor any lurking notion that someday we will be immune to alcohol.

Alcoholics Anonymous p.33

Such is the paradox of AA regeneration: strength arising out of complete defeat and weakness, the loss of one's old life as a condition for finding a new one.

AA Comes of Age p.46

Only Step One, where we made the 100 percent admission we were powerless over alcohol, can be practiced with absolute perfection.

Twelve and Twelve p.68

The fact is that most alcoholics, for reasons yet obscure, have lost the power of choice in drink. Our so-called will power becomes practically non-existent.

Alcoholics Anonymous p.24

**Tradition 1. "Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends on AA unity."**

No one invented AA. It grew. Trial and error has produced a rich experience. The 12 Traditions of AA grew out of the mistakes and tribulations of the early years of AA. The traditions first appeared in 1946 as a Grapevine Article by Bill W. entitled: *An Alcoholics Anonymous tradition of Relations- Twelve Points to Assure our future*. The Traditions were ratified in 1955 at the 2<sup>nd</sup> World Convention.

The first tradition directly states this. Our unity is our most cherished quality. It protects AA from us. It keeps old nemesis of money, power and pleasure at bay. What is good for AA is more important than what is good for me. The tradition clearly states that my desires as an individual run a close second to what is good for AA.

The dictionary definition of unity is: "the quality or state of being one." The scope of unity in AA goes beyond the mere dictionary definition though. Each AA is a very small part of a great whole. Every action taken since 1935 was taken so that we may take a sober breath in 2002. Moreover, the continuous action we take now insures that AA will be around tomorrow, and for however long God may need us.

Simply stated we are in unity with the Past, Present and Future as well as each other. "United we stand, Divided we fall." We do this together. The coffee makers, the chairman, the clean up crew, those that speak, those that listen, the shaky newcomers, the steady "old-timers", one and all we play a part. We must live our parts in unity because to do otherwise is to die.

IN MEMORIAM

Vincina (Vinnie) McCarthy – Director of Publications, A.A. World Services

Tom B.

Joni M.

Donna V. Fr. Baker Group

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

**Share your Experience, Strength, and Hope. Please submit your articles to Central Office by the 15<sup>th</sup> for next months issue.**

**And a HUGE Thank-you to everyone who contributed this month.**

**Debi C. - Victory Group**

The Central Office of Western New York publishes the *New Frontiers* monthly. We are supported by your subscriptions and Central Office donations. The *New Frontiers* presents the experience and opinions of members of Alcoholics Anonymous on the disease of Alcoholism. The staff reserves the right to edit any article for clarity and length. Articles will not be returned. Opinions expressed here are not those of Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole, nor does publication of any article imply the endorsement by the Central Office of Western New York or Alcoholics Anonymous. (Exceptions: Quotations from ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, TWELVE STEPS AND TWELVE TRADITIONS and other AA books and pamphlets are reprinted with permission of AA World Services, Inc. Articles reprinted with permission of AA Grapevine, Inc. Are subject to the GRAPEVINE copyright.)

# JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

## ACCEPTANCE

Joe L. 6y  
 Jim H. 7y  
 Robin A. 17y  
 Alice B. 22y

## Amherst/Snyder

Phillip B. 3m  
 Kara B. 3m  
 David P. 3m  
 Michael R. 6m  
 Mark S. 6m  
 Barry G. 6m  
 Colleen H. 6m  
 Joe F. 6m  
 Chuch T. 9m  
 Dave G. 9m  
 Tony P. 9m  
 Rob W. 9m  
 Ken C. 9m  
 Jacki M. 9m  
 Tom C. 9m  
 Chris S. 1y  
 Michael M. 1y  
 Jamey W. 1y  
 Jim S.Jr. 1y  
 Krystna T. 1y  
 Brain M. 1y  
 Amy B. 1y  
 Donna D. 2y  
 Russ M. 5y  
 Ann P. 10y  
 Barbara B. 12y  
 Gene H. 17y  
 Lou B. 19y  
 Don B. 21y  
 Alice B. 22y  
 Helen H. 27y

## Cold Springs

Brady P. 8y  
 Willie J. 8y  
 Al E. 22y  
 Henrietta W. 33y

## Courage Group

Don W. 6m  
 Tim J. 6m  
 Lucy M. 1y  
 Andy S. 7y  
 Pat M. 13y  
 Leo K. 15y  
 Robin A. 17y  
 Marie G. 20y  
 Agnes H. 20y

## Fireside

Megan M. 6m  
 Janet M. 9m  
 Mike M. 1y  
 Ilene D. 2y  
 Patty T. 2y  
 Bret B. 3y  
 Daryl C. 3y  
 Denise O. 4y

## Fresh Start

Tyrone H. 10y

## Honesty

Mike S. 4y  
 Pat S. 14y  
 John D. 16y

## Kensington

Jim W. 9m  
 Jack 3y  
 Marilyn L. 22y

## Lakeshore

Scott-T. 21y  
 Danny E. 21y

## Let Go, Let God

Carol B. 9y

## Main & High

Mary C. 3m  
 Karen K. 1y

## North Buffalo

Butch C. 3y  
 Tom C. 3y  
 Mike S. 4y  
 Jim W. 4y  
 David C. 5y  
 Walter P. 6y  
 Elvi Jo D. 6y  
 Philip S. 8y  
 Michael K. 9y  
 Dan G. 11y  
 Roger R. 13y  
 Pat S. 14y  
 Michelle L. 15y  
 Frank 16y  
 Larry 16y  
 Jim 18y  
 Lou 19y

**HAPPY  
 NEW  
 YEAR**

## Rise & Shine

Liz O. 3m  
 Peggy M. 6m  
 Valjean G. 6m  
 Susan D. 9m  
 Mary L. 1y  
 Douglas W. 1y  
 Sandra C. 2y  
 Paul F. 5y  
 Fred R. 9y

## Sheridan

Chris W. 1y  
 Laurie W. 6y  
 John N. 5y  
 Larry L. 17y

## Sun. Morning

### Breakfast

Laura Z. 3m  
 Bernadette 4y  
 Norm K. 17y  
 Gayle H. 18y

### Thruway

Todd P. 9m  
 David D. 1y  
 Tom F. 2y  
 Tom B. 4y  
 Judy G. 4y  
 James M. 10y  
 Kathy K. 14y  
 Mickey G. 22y  
 Ellen Mc 27y

### Women's

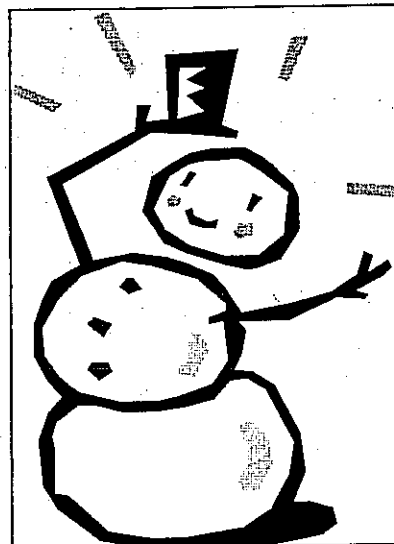
### Westside

Mary C. 3m  
 Kim M. 9m  
 Cheryl T. 3y  
 Senceria P. 4y  
 Verbie P. 4y

## GROUPS CELEBRATING

Father Baker  
 Williamsville  
 New Awakening  
 Survivors  
 Somerset  
 Cazenvoia  
 Tuesday Men's Disc.  
 It  
 Life Today  
 Try Again  
 Starting Over  
 F.U.N.  
 Main and High  
 Brown Baggers  
 New West Side  
 Ellicott  
 Daily Reprise  
 Varysburg

*Please remember to  
 have the anniversaries  
 submitted by  
 the 15th  
 of the month  
 previous*



BUFFALO CENTRAL OFFICE  
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS  
(716) 853-0388  
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845 ELLICOTT SQUARE  
295 MAIN STREET  
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14203  
Schedule on line at [ny-aa.org](http://ny-aa.org)

## January 2002

### PLEASE NOTE

- IF YOUR GROUP IS NOT MEETING, PLEASE INFORM THE CENTRAL OFFICE. THIS ALSO INCLUDES THOSE MEETING DAYS WHEN YOUR SITE IS CLOSED FOR A HOLIDAY.
- IF YOUR GROUP IS NOT RECEIVING THE BULLETIN, PLEASE CALL THE CENTRAL OFFICE TO UPDATE THE GROUP CONTACTS. THANK-YOU.
- BECOME INVOLVED; PLEASE CHECK YOUR GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS WITH THE FINANCIAL REPORT TO MAKE SURE OUR NUMBERS MATCH. IT HELPS KEEP SAFE GUARDS ON THE CENTRAL OFFICE AS WELL AS YOUR TREASURE, IF THERE'S A DIFFERENCE PLEASE INQUIRE, THANK-YOU
- THE CUT OFF DATES FOR ALL MONTHLY REPORTS IS NOW THE 15<sup>TH</sup> OF EACH MONTH. THIS INCLUDES NEW FRONTIERS, FINANCIAL REPORTS, ANNIVERSARIES AND ANYTHING FOR THE MONTHLY BULLETIN.
- *We are in desperate need for 12-Step People, particularly people that could be available during the daytime hours.*
- *If your group would like to E-Mail Articles or Anniversaries for the New Frontiers, they can be sent to [buffalooa@hotmail.com](mailto:buffalooa@hotmail.com)*

### MEETING CHANGES:

1110 GROUP: Moved to 241 Genesee Street, Corner of Michigan. We also changed our name to The Buffalo Group.

Boulevard Helping Hands: has returned to Wheatfield Town Hall.

Cold Springs has moved to the Crucial Center, 230 Moselle St. Monday's at Monday's at 8:00

Community Center: Has moved to 118 E. Utica; Friends of the Elderly Center.

Crosstalk Big Book; will not meet on Monday Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> due to Church functions.

COURAGE GROUP: Starting in January will be having a Big Book table.

HARMONY; Now meets Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 10:00am.

SPIRITUAL PROGRESS; has a new home. Church of the Advent, 54 Delaware Rd., Kenmore.

The Three Legacies (formally Unity Men's Stag); now meets at Good Shepherd Church, 96 Jewett Pkwy at 8 pm. Closed Men's Meeting

THANKFUL GROUP, Fridays at 2 pm have moved to the Senior Center, behind the fire hall at 101 King & Oakwood. Please join us in our new meeting place.

Trail End; Cherry Creek, Saturdays at 8, NO LONGER MEETS.

Tuesday Men's Discussion Will not be meeting on Christmas and New Years due to church functions. Meetings will resume on January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2002.

Unity Group, Will begin meeting at Calvary Episcopal Church, corner of Cayuga and Milton, one block south of St. Peter & Paul. This is only a temporary move.

### NEW MEETINGS:

Sunday At 8:00; 8:00 pm, Smoking, Closed, Open last Sunday of the month.

Early Rising Obliging; Friday's at 10:00 AM. 6560 Niagara Falls Blvd at the 190, behind Timberland Lodge Resterant. In Horizons Health Center.

Another Chance; Monday 5:30 PM, Jewish Community Center, 787 Delaware Ave., Buffalo West; OD

Nothing But The Book; Wed. 6:00 pm, St. Bishop Timon High School, 603 McKinley Pkwy.

In the Solution; Eternal Café, 84 Sweeney St. Tues. at 6 PM; Sun. at 8 PM

Saturday Nite Sober; Fredonia, Open Discussion, WC, Buttrick Hall; Central Ave & Cottage

Sobriety Comes First; Tuesday's, 8 PM, OD, 1206 Niagara St., Niagara Falls

Sobriety On The Canal; Sunday, 6:00 PM, NS: Ethereal Dreams Café, 84 Sweeney St., N.

Tonawanda, N.Y.

BUFFALO STATE GROUP; Rm. 210, Weigle Health Center, Tues. & Thurs. 12:3pm, Open Discussion

## **MEETINGS IN NEED OF SUPPORT**

**DeVeau Discussion-** First Presbyterian Church, Rainbow Blvd at North.

**Early Rising Obliging:** Friday, 10:00 AM, 6560 Niagara Falls Blvd.

**INSPIRATION** – St. Barnabas, 2049 George Urban Blvd., Cheektowaga, 10 am Thursdays

**PERRY DISCUSSION** – 344 Perry Street, Tuesdays, 12:15 pm Tuesdays

**RECOVERY NEAR THE GARDEN**– Lake Shore Behavior Health Building, 2600 South Park, Lackawanna, Wednesdays at 7:15 pm

**ROLAND GROUP**– Roland Methodist, 168 Roland, Lackawanna Saturdays at 8 pm

**Serenity On The Lake**—WED. At St. Anthony's Church, Route 249 in Farnham

**ST. BARNABAS**– 63 John Street, Akron, 8 pm Mondays

**ST.MARK'S**-Orchard Park Saturdays, need Home group members, large group, no members; need help

**THANKFUL GROUP**, needs support

## **COMING EVENTS**

~ Dec. 31, New Years Eve Party, **Tri County Group**, St. Josephs church. Doors open at 7:00 pm, Speaker at 8:30, Food & Fellowship 9:30- 2002. Please bring a dish to share.

~ Jan. 7, **Central Committee Meeting**, 7 pm, 651 Washington Street, St.Micheal's Parish.

~ Jan. 11, **Archives Committee**, 9 am, At Maryvale Presbyterian Church, 425 Maryvale Dr.

~ Jan. 13, General Service Assembly, Hamburg Town Hall, S61100 South Park Avenue

~ Jan. 16, **The Ellicott Group** will be celebrating their 22<sup>nd</sup> Group Anniversary at 608 William St., At 8:00 PM. Everyone is welcome.

~ Jan.19, **2002 Buffalo Fall Convention Committee Meeting**. Anyone interested in getting involved is welcome. Maryvale Presbyterian Church, 425 Maryvale Drive. 9:00 AM before the Courage Group.

~ Jan. 30, **The Main & High Group** is celebrating their 4 Th year group Anniversary. Come fellowship with us at the Salvation Army, 984 Main Street at 7:00 PM.

**1st STEP: "We admitted we were powerless over alcohol—that our lives had become unmanageable."**

**1st TRADITION: " Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends on A.A. unity."**

PLEASE SUPPORT THE ENVELOPE SYSTEM

*.... Yours in the Fellowship of the Spirit...*

*Terry Bateman*

*Acting Executive Secretary*



**BUFFALO CENTRAL COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF JANUARY 06, 2002 MEETING**

The meeting was opened at 7:04 PM with Serenity prayer led by Chairman Scott T., Lake Shore Group. Preamble was read by Lee M., Traditions by Will and Purpose by Mark, from the Wilson Group. A motion to dispense with reading was offered by Chair, several corrections made. Dates for Fall Convention are Nov. 7 - 9, 2002, and the Hotel rate is \$82.00 per night. Lee M. seconded the motion with corrections.

**39 Groups attended:**

Dist. #1: Downtown Men's, F.U.N., Journey, Main and High, Sunday Niters, Sunrise Court, Buffalo Group  
Dist. #2: Chapter IX, Early Bird, Living Sober, North Buffalo, Three Legacies.  
Dist. #3: Abbot Men's Discussion, Courage, Father Baker, New Life Group, Rainbow, Ridge, Southgate, Victory.  
Dist. #4: Action, Lakeshore, Ray of Hope, Thankful.  
Dist. #5: Niagara Frontier Men's Disc., Wilson,  
Dist. #7: Community Center, Crosstalk, Ellicott, Fresh Start, Higher Powered, Let Go and Let God, Lovejoy, Remember When, Spirit of Hope, Buffalo Group  
Dist. #8: Amherst Snyder, Beginners-Women's, Renewal.  
District's #6, 9, 10 none  
New Group Rep. Tom C., Three Legacies

**Committee Reports:**

**ENVELOPE SYSTEM:** Karen S., Ridge Group Chairperson reported YTD total of \$6,078.00. She is seeking a substitute helper for 4-6 weeks during Feb. and March while she will be unavailable. She is also trying to get more subscribers to the Envelope System in order to increase contributions.

**STEERING COMMITTEE:** Persons in attendance, Jim B., outgoing Financial Chair; Gary J., Dist. 2; Joanne M., incoming Financial Chair; Charmaine D., Dist. 8; Ed K., Dist. 3; Charles L., Dist 7; Scott T., Chairman; Terry B., acting Exec. Sect.; Derek H., Dist. 5.

Derek H. gave a synopsis of their meeting. Some of the topics covered included,

1. Reviewed the letter about the two candidates for Exec. Sect. Position. 2. Every A.A. Function is Self-supporting. 3. Financial support of A A in WNY and how we could increase awareness at Group level. 4. How Dist. Rep's can serve New Groups. 5. Feb. letter going out to Groups to inform them of process used to interview Candidates and their answers to questions posed to them from the Committee. (These interviews are on tape and are available to those interested in total interviews). 6. Candidates will be given time to speak for themselves at the next Central Committee meeting. 7. The Election will be held at March meeting.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Sun. 1/06/02. Financial Chair's Report to Central Committee

Our Nov. checking statement arrived at my house on Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>. On Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>, I brought statements to Cent. Office. On the 12<sup>th</sup>, I returned to go over our books. I also looked over the math in our checkbooks on Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup>. On Dec. 27<sup>th</sup> a statement came from Charter One notifying

us of an error in addition on a deposit in the amount of \$25.00. On Jan. 5<sup>th</sup>, another came, this one regarding an error of \$40.00.

Now, I would like to thank this body for allowing me the privilege to serve as your Financial Chairperson. I've had a unique opportunity to witness our spiritual principals in practical solutions, through God expressing itself in our group consciences. I would like now to turn the duties of this position, and the basket, over to the capable hands, mind and spirit of Joanne.

Thank You again,  
Jim B., outgoing Financial Chair (submitted by Jim B.)

Joanne M. is new Financial Chairperson for 2002.

**TREATMENT FACILITIES Report:** Submitted by Chair Winston F. Meetings at E.C.M.C., Sun. 3:45PM, Mon. 7:00PM, Tues. 7:00PM, Thurs. 7:00PM, Fri. 7:00PM, Sat. 7:00PM all have coverage. V.A.M.C. Sun. 7:00Pm and Wed. 8:00PM Are covered. V.A.M.C. Tues. 1:00PM, 5<sup>th</sup> Tues. needs coverage. Sheehan Hospital, Mon. 7:00PM and Salvation Army Mon. 8:00PM and Lockport Memorial Hospital, Thurs. 8:00PM are also covered. New Business: Winston F. is presently updating the chairperson schedule. This is my first meeting since being elected Treatment Facilities Chairperson, he stated. I have met with Staff representatives at Sheehan and V.A.M.C. and was invited to sit in at the Lockport #1 group meeting that they had with the Delegate and I attended and met with some of the Chairpersons that chair the Reflection Group at Lpt. Mem. Hosp. Slots are covered now.

**CORRECTIONS COMMITTEE:** No report. Needs Chairperson.

**SCREENERS COMMITTEE:** Joanne M. submitted the report. The list has been updated and given to Terry B. who has placed the names into the computer. New names for daytime 12<sup>th</sup> Step calls have been put on the list. Dave B. will be the new Screeners Chair. She also conveyed her thanks for your service.

**CENTRAL OFFICE:** January Office Report

AAINFO: 708-more than twice last month

12- STEP: 13- last month was nine

ALANON: 57- last months was 31; almost double

PIC: 2

VISITORS: 174- last month was 74, a lot due to the arrival of new Big Books

VOLUNTEERS: 10

Very happy to report that I have gone from the original 63 names, on the 12-step list to 125. This was mostly through directly announcing it at all the meetings I've been to as well as the monthly bulletin.

In the current financial report I've done a chart of the past year income verses expenses in the office. I was also asked to do just since I've been there to reflect more accurate numbers. As you can see we are currently spending more per month than we are receiving. I am aware that some groups in January make a yearly contribution, as well as some on the envelope system. I am going over all the corners in the office- but there's not much that can be cut. Our postage went up when we started putting the financial reports in the New Frontiers. We want to keep our members informed but there is a cost. One solution is to really get the word out on the Envelope System. This was put into place directly for individuals to help support the office. What is our sobriety worth- maybe one drink a day to the office?? As we go back to our groups could we take some of the pamphlets and talk it up. We really need to talk it up. Currently we have only

about 100 members donating to the envelope system- that's not even 1 member per 3 groups. Just a reminder, we are self-supporting through our own contributions. Enough said.

As most of you know we had no schedule on the computer when I took over the office. Now we do. Whether myself or another running the office in the spring, everything is now in order and complete. Also in the line of schedules I have gotten another bid. I also have to talk with our current company as to whether their price would change since we are restarting at ground zero. All new plates would have to be made because old schedules and new are not identical. Don't know what program old was made in, the new is done in Excel.

All bills are paid. All the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter taxes (federal and state) are completed and paid. The W-2 for 2001 is completed. The Big Books are in stock, and we should be getting back on schedule with them. Beyond the anticipated slow down in NY, the Head of Literature in GSO's husband suddenly died, Andrea needs all our prayers. She is back to work. Our orders are being filled again. Literature was inventoried on December 15<sup>th</sup> and is the actual numbers reflected in the assets column in the financial report. Again it has been an honor and pleasure to serve this fellowship.

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

**NEW FRONTIER:** Debbie reported that the committee is looking for a new spot to meet, and she will inform us when this has been achieved.

**60<sup>th</sup> BUFFALO FALL CONVENTION, 2001** – Final Report submitted by Adolph I. Chairperson

All bills are paid.

\$2000,00 --- already paid to Central Office

\$3,327.00--- presently in Convention account

\$1,950.00--- will be paid to Central Office on Tuesday

\$1,377.00--- will be left in the convention account as seed money for next year's committee (2002)

\*This is slightly more than we received, but the committee treasure thinks it is needed

\*Actual amount of seed money is up to Central Committee Finance Committee, and next year (2002) convention chairperson

**TOTAL PROFIT:** \$3,950.00 from 60<sup>th</sup> Convention

---- Plus a little more to come in from late sales of sweatshirts and mugs.

(2002 notation added by sect. to clarify reference)

**61<sup>st</sup> BUFFALO FALL CONVENTION Report:** Pat M. 2002 Chairperson stated that first meeting will be held on Sat. January 19, 2002 at Maryvale Pres. Church, 9:00AM, Maryvale Drive. Terry B. stated that they are looking at the Marriott for 2003. Joanne M. informed the group that GSA was meeting next Sun. in Hamburg.

**PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE:** Terry B. received 2 calls, one from a Radio Station, Mike B. is handling this and one call from Buffalo area Directory/ Regional is setting up a web site. She sent them information.

CPC: No Report

ARCHIVES: No Report

**RECAP:** Richard questioned cost for Talking Phone Book listing, could it be lowered? Terry responded that the bill has already been paid. We can check into it for the future. (The Chairman called out each Committee for issues, most had none, therefore short recap session.). Treatment Fac. Richard stated Bridging the Gap received two calls. Central Office questioned about record retrieval; Terry stated that everything has been either saved to disc and or saved under another site in the Computer. Steering Comm. questioned about there having been three candidates previously for Exec. Sect. position. Ans. One was eliminated. Also we were reminded that a letter would go out to all groups with present candidates answers to questions posed by Steering Comm. Pat M. asked about cost of mailings. Terry responded that we share out much information so groups can be more comfortable with record keeping methods in Central Office. Scott said he felt the more info shared the more confidence groups will have.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Gary S. voted in as Dist. #4 Rep. by Groups from Dist. #4 that were present. Gary J. is Dist. #2 Rep. Corrections Chair is needed. Lee nominated Bob G. for the position. Voted and carried. Richard will help him.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Liz G. brought up concerns regarding statements made at a group Christmas Party Meeting, also about pictures being taken. She felt strongly that Pictures should not be taken, our Anonymity is compromised when this done. Scott referred the concern to Gary J. to speak to that group's members, and bring back a report. Joanne supported this view, and the Chair agreed that pictures should not be taken. Jim B. will fill in for Karen while she is unavailable in Feb.

Chairman Scott T. asked for Group commitments for Coffee support at Central Committee Meetings. This is the list compiled at the meeting by month.

February	Amherst Snyder	Charmaine D.	438-0260
March	Lakeshore		
April	Fresh Start	Ron D.	812-3126
May	Three Legacies	Tom C.	838-0775
June		Joanne M.	688-2760
July	Main High	Tom C.	834-6143; 812-0446
August	Let Go and Let God		
September	Father Baker		
October	Ridge Group		
November	Living Sober		
December	Victory		

If you will act as contact person for reminder call, please submit name and #.

Announcement- Joanne will be in Denver bidding for International Women's Convention. If you are interested please let her know.

7<sup>th</sup> Tradition was gathered, Lee motioned we close the meeting. We did so with Prayer.

	CO	Cummulative	Treatment	Cummulative	Corrections	Cummulative		CO	Cummulative	Treatment	Cummulative	Corrections	Cummulative
							Dunkirk Monday Night						
							Early Bird						
							Easier Softer Way						
11th							East Amherst						
12 Step							East Aurora						
4th Step Stumblers							Easy Does It						
6th Step							Eden-North Collins						
A Day At A Time							Efcolt						
A Little Bit of Everything							Escoltville						
A New Freedom							Emergency						
A Strong Desire							Eternal Vigilance						
Abbott Men's	80.00	80.00	80.00	80.00	80.00	80.00	Everybody's						
Acceptance/Welcomes	300.00	300.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	Express						
Achievement							Eyeopener						
Action	25.00	25.00					F.U.N.						
After Midnight							Faith						
Age Doesn't Matter							Father Baker						
Alexander							Feelings						
Amherst/ Snyder							Fireside						
Amsdell Lakeshore	25.00	25.00					Fireside PM						
Another Chance							First Things First						
Any Age							Fredonia Discussion	100.00	100.00				
Any Length	30.00	30.00					Fredonia Friday Noon						
Anybody's	20.00	20.00					Freedom						
As Bill Sees It							Freedom Now						
Attitude Adjustment	70.00	70.00					Fresh Start						
AW Group							Friendly						
Attraction	100.00	100.00					Frontier						
Beginner's Table							Gardenville						
Beginning In Sobriety II							Georgetown						
Beginning's Women							Getting Better						
Blowell Monday							Giving						
Big Book Lockport	25.00	25.00					Going to Any Length	200.00	200.00				
Big Book Study							Golden Slipper						
Book Workshops							Grand						
							Grand II Joy of Living						
Blasdel Monday Night							Grateful						
Bochisatva							Guiding Light						
Bodevard Helping Hand							H.O.W.						
Bodevard Women	75.00	75.00					Half and Half						
Brass	10.00	10.00					Hamburg						
Broadway Bailey							Hard						
Brocton AA							Handicappers						
Brownbaggers							Happy Hour						
But For the Grace of God							Harmony						
By The Book							Helping Hand						
Came To Believe							High Noon						
Casting	100.00	100.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	High View						
Cathedral Park							Higher Power						
Caz Manor							Hilbity	100.00	100.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00
Cazenovia							Holiday Village	250.00	250.00				
Central Park							Holand						
Chapter IX							Honesty	30.00	30.00			10.00	10.00
Cheskiowaga							Horizon						
Chery #1							Hope Big Book Study						
Clarence Men's							How It Works						
Clarence Men's II							How It Works/Men's	231.00	231.00				
Cold Spring	15.00	15.00					Humboldt Riley						
Common Bond							Inner City						
Common Problem							Inspiration						
Community Center							Intoxicated on Life						
Complainers							Ironhorse						
Courage			45.50	45.50	45.50	45.50	IT						
Courage to Change							Jamestown Group						
Crossroads							Johnson Creek Big Book						
Cross Talk Big Book							Journey						
Daily Reflections	30.00	30.00					Just Do It						
Deprive							Just For Today/ Abion						
Deaux Discussion							Just For Today/Cheskiowaga						
Derby							Keep It Simple Sisler						
Desire							Keep On Coming						
Downtown Men's	15.00	15.00					Kenmore						

GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS

	CO	Cummulative	Treatment	Cummulative	Corrections	Cummulative		CO	Cummulative	Treatment	Cummulative	Corrections	Cummulative
Kensington							Matt Tabot	50.00	50.00				
Ladies Night							Mayville Uptown Group						
Lake Shore							Medina Grapevine						
Lakeview							McKinley Winners						
Last Days Fellowship							Medina Big Book						
LewPort							Medina New Life						
Let Go and Let God							Mercy						
Liberty Women							Mid-day						
Life Today							Miracle						
Lighten UP							Morning After						
Grateful							Monday Morning Lockport						
Guiding Light							New Awakening	50.00	50.00				
H.O.W.							New Freedom						
Half and Half							New Beginnings/SL Vincent						
Hamburg							New Life						
Hand							New Outlook						
Handicappers							Niagara Intergroup						
Happy Hour							New Westside						
Harmony							Niagara Frontier Men's Disc.						
Helping Hand							Nights'n						
High Noon							North Buffalo						
High View							North Java Monday						
Higher Power			15.00	15.00			North Java Morning After						
Hillbilly							North Java Sunday						
Holiday Village							One Day At A Time						
Holland							Open Arms						
Honesty							Open Mind						
Horizon							Orchard Park Step						
Hope Big Book Study							P.B.P. Big Book Study						
How It Works							Pass It On						
How It Works/Men's							Patchin						
Humboldt Riley							Pathway to Peace						
Inner City							Pendleton Chapter Five						
Inspiration							Perry Discussion						
Intoxicated on Life							Pink Can						
Ironhorse							Pioneer						
IT							Positively Living/Ascension	500.00	500.00				
Jamestown Groups							Positively Living/Renaissance						
Johnson Creek Big Book							Powerless						
Journey							Primary Purpose						
Just Do It							Principles Before Personalities	100.00	100.00				
Just For Today/ Abion							Progress						
Just For Today/Cheektowaga							Purpose/Tonawanda	150.00	150.00				
Keep It Simple Sister							Rainbow	25.00	25.00				
Keep On Coming							Ray of Hope						
Kenmore							Recovery Near the Gardens						
Kensington							Remember When	25.00	25.00				
Ladies Night							Renewal						
Lake Shore							Ridge						
Lakeview							Ridge/Pink Can						
Last Days Fellowship							Rise and Shine						
LewPort							Rochester						
Let Go and Let God							Roland						
Liberty Women							Rural Is Plural						
Life Today							SaTy						
Lighten UP	600.00	600.00					Saratoga						
Live and Let Live							Searching For Serenity						
Living In the Solution							Second Chance						
Living Sober							Serenity						
Lock City							Serenity Circle	10.00	10.00				
Lockport #1							Serenity on the Lake						
Lockport Discussion							Serenity Trails						
Lockport Ladies							Setaside						
Lockview	300.00	300.00					Sheridan	20.00	20.00				
Look To This Day							Silvercreek Friendship						
Love							Sober and Proud						
Lovejoy							Sober Saturday						
Lower River							Sober Trail						
Lunch Time							Sober Winners						
Main and High							Sobriety for Women						
Main Street							Sobriety Men's Discussion						
Marilla							Sobriety On The Canal						

January 15th

GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS

2002

	CO	Cumulative	Treatment	Cumulative	Corrections	Cumulative		CO	Cumulative	Treatment	Cumulative	Corrections	Cumulative
Sobriety on a Saturday Night	35.00	35.00											
Sobriety on the Lake													
Wormslet													
Buffalo													
South Town													
Southgate													
Southtown Women's	73.00	73.00											
Southwestern	44.00	44.00											
Spirit of Hope							TOTAL	\$4,457.80	\$4,457.80	\$371.50	\$371.50	\$346.50	\$346.50
Spiritual Progress	150.00	150.00											
Springville Saturday Afternoon													
Springville Tuesday Night													
Springville Wednesday Noon													
St. Bamabas													
St. Mark's													
Starting Over			35.00	35.00	35.00	35.00							
Staying Alive													
Step Work													
Stepping Stones/Gowanda	30.00	30.00											
Stepping Stones/Williamsville													
Suburban	10.00	10.00											
Sunday Afternoon Ascension													
Sunday Morning Breakfast	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00							
Sunday Nilers													
Sunday Third Group													
Sunrise Court													
SUNY Amherst Campus													
Surrender and Hope													
Survivors													
T.P.H.													
TGIF													
Thankful													
The Book Meeting													
The Moonshiners													
There's A Solution													
Tree Legacies													
Use Too	5.00	5.00											
Thruway	200.00	200.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00							
Thursday PM Discussion													
Today													
Today's Woman													
Trails End													
Tri County	40.00	40.00	10.00	10.00									
Tri-Step Beginners													
Try Again													
Tuesday Men's AM													
Tuesday Women	25.00	25.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00							
Turning Point													
Twin Cities													
Unity													
University Men's Discussion													
Valley													
Varieties of Spiritual Experience													
Varysburg													
Victory													
Wake Up Cal													
We Are Not Saints													
We Care	30.00	30.00	20.00	20.00	10.00	10.00							
We Choose Life													
Wehite													
Welcome													
Westfield													
Westminster													
White													
Williamsville													
Willing To Grow													
Wilson Group													
Wilson Smith Alumni													
Women on the Rise													
Women's West Side	100.00	100.00											
Working													
You'll Never Walk Alone													

	Dec. 15	Jan. 15	Feb. 15	15-Mar
Beginning Balance	1,323.91	\$ 7,608.93		
<b>RECEIPTS</b>				
Groups & Indiv. Contributed	2,942.50	4,457.80		
Joint Meeting	59.75	54.55		
New Frontiers Subscriptions		96.00		
Envelope System	239.00	1,642.00		
Literature	4,949.10	3,204.82		
Fall Convention 2001	2,000.00	1,950.00		
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 11,514.26</b>	<b>\$19,014.10</b>		
<b>EXPENSES:</b>				
Ellicott Court Corp.(LOCKS & KEYS)				
#10 Ellicott Court Corporation OFFICE RENT	636.00	636.00		
St. Micheal's Parish MEETING ROOM RENT	35.00	35.00		
Salaries	1600.00	1600.00		
Charter One/Federal Withholdings	679.84	679.84		
Gould & Swanson (accountant)				
Workers Comp				
New York State Employment Taxes		184.60		
Advance Business Machine(postage supplies)				
Selective Insurance		838.84		
Pitney Bowes	37.24			
ACC Business	7.14	6.85		
Secrephone(Answering Service)	272.15	355.45		
IRS(1st qt. Fed With-holdings)				
Minolta leasing/Copier	187.00	187.00		
Minolta / Copies over ( 6/1 - 9/1 )	205.65			
AT & T	94.35	97.34		
Crystle Rock(water)	14.50	14.50		
Grapevine		43.50		
World Services, Inc.	2,298.95	806.65		
Hazeldon		681.12		
Office Depot		125.38		
Williamson UPS				
Postage(Neopost)				
Bank Charge	8.00	8.00		
Image Office Tech				
Talking Phone Book	408.00			
Yellow Pages Company				
Verizon		141.50		
Twenty First Century Press		1,477.00		
Outstanding Invoices	2,406.95	3,155.84		
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 8,890.77</b>	<b>\$ 11,074.41</b>		
<b>INCOME- EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 2,623.49</b>	<b>\$ 7,939.69</b>		
Lit. Assets	\$ 4,985.44	\$ 5,859.61		
<b>TOTAL CENTRAL OFFICE</b>	<b>\$ 7,608.93</b>	<b>\$ 13,799.30</b>		
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Correctional Facilities	983.00	1,188.00		
Donations	292.00	346.50		
Expenses	75.00			
Bank Charge	12.00	12.00		
<b>BALANCE</b>	<b>\$ 1,188.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,522.50</b>		
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Treatment Facilities	430.36	510.83		
Donations	397.00	371.5		
Expences				
AT&T Bridging the Gap	19.23	25.71		
AAA Abbott Answering Service	30.00	30.75		
Literature	255.30	373.00		
Bank Charge	12.00	12.00		
<b>BALANCE</b>	<b>\$ 510.83</b>	<b>\$ 440.87</b>		
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