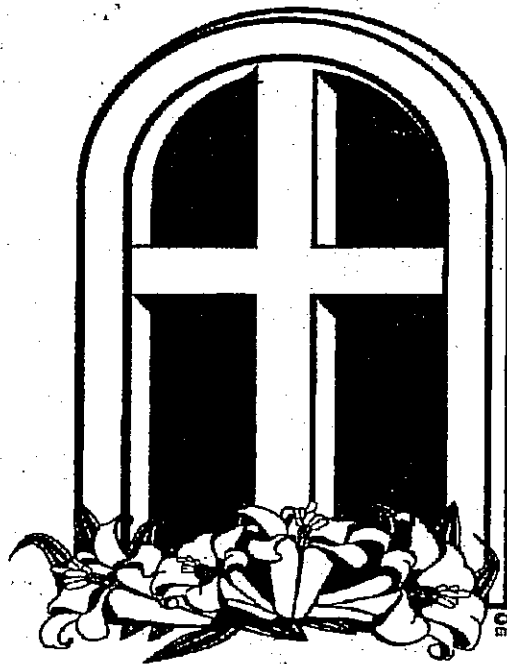
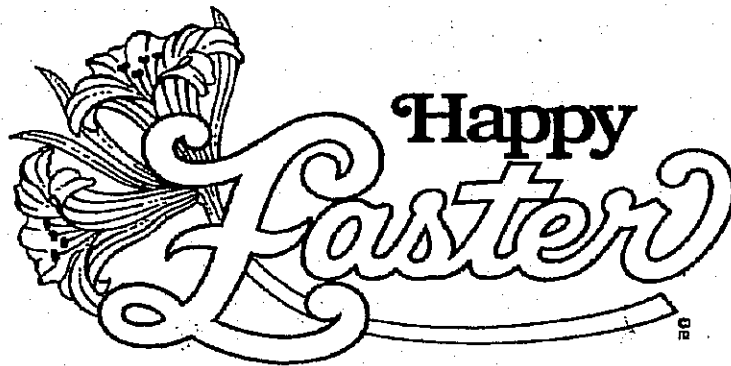


NEW FRONTIERS

A CENTRAL COMMITTEE JOURNAL FOR ALL A.A. MEMBERS
OF WESTERN NEW YORK AND THE NIAGARA FRONTIER



THE SERENITY PRAYER

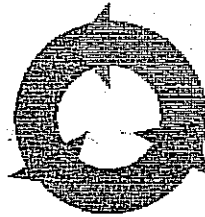
**GOD GRANT ME THE SERENITY
TO ACCEPT THE THINGS I CANNOT CHANGE,
COURAGE TO CHANGE THE THINGS I CAN,
AND WISDOM TO KNOW THE DIFFERENCE.**

BRIDGING THE GAP

Part of Bridging the Gap between a correctional facility and A.A. is the temporary contact program, which is designed to help the alcoholic behind the walls make the transition to outside the walls.

As you know, one of the more "slippery" places in the journey to sobriety is between the door of the facility and the nearest A.A. meeting. Some of us can tell you that, even though we heard of A.A. while being incarcerated, we were too fearful to go.

The Correctional Facility Committee is looking for volunteers to help fill the Gap as temporary volunteers. Keep in mind that this is basic Twelfth Step work. The intent is to provide the newcomer with your help for a limited time, note the words "temporary sponsorship." You need not have any experience with Corrections Facilities. Your qualifications are experience as an alcoholic and recovery in A.A. If you are squeamish about actually going into a facility, but want to help—this is a sure fire way to help your area help those behind the walls.



Remember, the goal of both AA and the facility are the same — the recovery of the alcoholic. When we carry the AA message, we are not just one drunk talking with another. While no one speaks for AA as a whole, how we look, act and talk may be all they are going to know about AA. Since we may be seen as part of AA, we let our new friends see, hear and talk to a winner.

If you would like to help in this very important Twelfth Step work and have at least one year of continuous sobriety in the AA program, and have a desire, please contact Cindy N. through the Central Office. Thank you for your willingness to share in this most important work.

paraphrased from
Bridging the Gap Pamphlet
Cindy N.

LITERATURE WANTED

The Corrections Facilities Committee is asking all AA Groups in the W.N.Y. area to contribute any used Grapevines, Big Books or other AA literature for distribution to the Corrections Facilities in our area. Those AA's behind the walls want and need these meetings in print. If your Group would like to donate any material to this most worthy cause, please have your Central Committee Rep. bring it to a Central Committee meeting, and give the literature to a member of the Corrections Committee. There will also be a drop box at the 1997 Spring Convention, April 4-5-6, 1997. We need your help to "Carry The Message" to those less fortunate than us.

The New Frontiers is published monthly by the Central Office of Western New York. We are self-supporting 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 endorsement by the Central Office of Western New York or Alcoholics Anonymous. (Exceptions: Quotations from ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, TWELVE STEPS AND TWELVE TRADITIONS and other A.A. books and pamphlets are reprinted with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc. Art and articles reprinted with permission of A.A. Grapevine, Inc. are subject to the GRAPEVINE copyright.)

John H., We Care, Editor

Dave W., Giving, Assistant to the Editor

" THERE ARE THOSE TOO....."

I've heard it said that we come into this Fellowship in various states of disrepair. First, alcohol has taken some of us farther than others, next, many of us have problems other than alcohol such as drug, gambling or food addictions and of course there are our varying struggles with relationships, jobs, finances and health, to name a few.

From my experience I have seen members in all of these situations fitting in and sharing, or if necessary being guided to another program honoring our singleness of purpose.

There remains a group of alcoholics who rarely enjoys the luxury of fitting in. Other's prejudice and ignorance of their problems often keep them silent—they are those who have a mental problem and are alcoholic. Though there is far more awareness today, as recently as eight years ago before a meeting, I saw five young men force a boy who was being treated for schizophrenia to hand over his medication! Extreme? Yes! But I think the attitude that mental illness is some kind of "cop-out" and that medication is suspect still prevails. Please note that I am not speaking of the A.A. suffering alcoholic depression who seeks another solution...."To these problems there are certainly no pat answers. But part of the answer surely lies in the constant effort to practice all of A.A.'s twelve steps." pg. 30 As Bill Sees It.

Cases of clinical and chronic depression, manic depression, schizophrenia etc. are just as prevalent in Alcoholics Anonymous as they are in society in general. Psychiatry keeps some alive long enough to get to Alcoholics Anonymous.



On pg. 133 of the Big Book it says, "Try to remember that though God has wrought miracles among us, we should never belittle a good doctor or

psychiatrist." I have been at many tables where the psychiatrist becomes the "shrink" and any number of horror stories are laughingly told about the encounters many A.A.'s have had with these doctors. In my personal experience I would agree that psychiatrists rarely understand alcoholism but that they do care for and understand the other mental illnesses, I say "other" because in the Big Book alcoholism is called a mental illness. Is the closeness of these problems a cause for fear in some of us? Negative remarks about these doctors causes confusion and guilt in the alcoholic who needs and may not even want psychiatric care. This same negativity calls the facilities available to him nut wards, booby hatches or the flight deck. This does little for the self esteem of an alcoholic who knows these facilities all too well, in and out of sobriety!

With such close minded company at tables, the alcoholic with a grave emotional and mental disorder is surely going to keep his pain to himself. We don't have to be doctors to know that this is a prescription to drink.

A diabetic or cancer patient can safely express their fears and difficulties— they can reap the spiritual benefits of sharing at tables. Would you risk opening your mouth if you had another mental illness?

Darlyne S.
Matt Talbot

**TO A DESOLATE ALCOHOLIC THE KINDNESS OF SILENCE,
CAN BE THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN GETTING BETTER
OR GETTING "BITTER."**

DEALING WITH PAIN

My name is Nelson, and I am an alcoholic. For me today, only through actively working the 12 Steps of The Program, and through daily Prayer and Meditation, I have come to the understanding that pain is inevitable, but suffering is optional. The point is that I must know where I am, and how to work through painful situations.

EXAMPLE:

In November of last year, my wife and I were blessed to go on a cruise. Needless to say, drinking was most definitely the thing! To the point of being pushed on us. Upon entering our cabin, there, in front of us, was a bottle of wine and champagne. At this point it was easy to use my AA tools to do the right thing. I gave the booze away and said a prayer. The next morning I opened the itinerary and, to my surprise, I saw "Friends of Bill W." What a blessing! I knew I would be O.K.

On the third day of the cruise, I received a ship to shore phone call from my oldest son. He

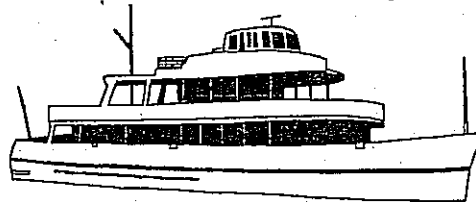
informed me that his brother, who lives in Atlanta, was arrested for armed robbery!

I was devastated, the pain was overwhelming, and I fell into deep depression and self pity. There was no meeting that day, as the ship was in port. I know, now, that my alcoholic thinking resurfaced and I was blaming myself for my sons problems. I found it difficult to use the tools of the Program, and almost got drunk! However it was not God's will for me to get drunk and I managed to avoid it. I prayed with my loving wife (God bless Her) and I did not pick up a drink.

The next day I went to my meeting and gave the pain to my shipboard family of A.A. Today I feel blessed to have gone through that pain, for I've learned how not to suffer.

God bless my A.A. family for showing me the only way to live.

Nelson Y.



SERVICE

When I came to the doors of AA it was suggested to me that I get a Home Group and get involved. "Come early and stay late," they said. "Put away the chairs for the next meeting" was also suggested. I went out for coffee, after the meeting, with some of my fellow AA's.

One of my first duties was to represent my group at the monthly meetings of the Central Committee, as our group representative (Central Committee Rep.) What an Ideal Me a member of AA, giving of myself for the good of others. I didn't think I qualified, either in length of sobriety or my ability to handle the job. I looked for excuses both real and imaginary.

I thought of how courageous and diligent I was when I was looking for my next drink. Now that I wanted to stop drinking, I would summon that same courage to stay sober. One of the best ways to show my gratitude for my gift of sobriety was to perform "service." It was not as hard as I imagined it would be. Not only was I helping myself, but others as well. There are so many jobs in AA that are simple tasks; making coffee, setting up, greeting, chairing, speaker seeker, treasurer, recording secretary, and numerous other jobs that help us stay sober.

"So if you want what we have, and are willing to go to any lengths to get it".....Remember, service is the pathway to sobriety. It was for me and it can be for you.

Barry R.
West Seneca Saturday Night

IMPRESSED BY A.A.

(Appeared in a Canadian newspaper 30 years ago)

"Last week I had the occasion to attend an Alcoholics Anonymous meeting. I am not an alcoholic myself, but someone who is very dear to me was celebrating his seventh year of sobriety, and I was invited for the evening.

There is no way I can express how I was impressed by these people and their dedication. There were well over 100 people present, rich, poor, young and old, intellectual and illiterate. Virtually all types of people were there but as soon as you entered the room you couldn't help but notice something they all had in common. They had true friendship, the will to not just help themselves but also their fellow man and sobriety.

There was a guest speaker who spoke for almost an hour, not from a written speech but truly from his heart. He spoke of his life while he was drinking and also how his life changed through AA. His speech was both humorous and sad but carried a very serious message. Never have I been so moved by a

speech as I was that night. I found myself so engrossed in what he was saying that tears came to my eyes.

The reason I am writing this letter is because so many people tend to look down on alcoholics and classify them all as 'second rate citizens.' Well, this group of people I met were certainly not like that. I have been at various service clubs such as Jaycees, Kiwanis, Canadian Legion and other Church run groups and believe me, all of these groups and probably many others could learn a good lesson from Alcoholics Anonymous.

To all the drinkers that read this; if you ever have the opportunity to attend an AA meeting, please go—you'll never regret it.

To all the AA members who read this, keep up the good work and may God bless you."

An AA Advocate
Submitted by Paul R.
Williamsville Group.

WELCOME TO A.A. ON LINE



The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking, just like any other A.A. meeting, no dues or fees, no sign ups. There are a lot of A.A. and recovery related stuff on AOL and on the internet. We do Protocol style meetings here in AAONLINE, very much like a face to face A.A. meeting. We have a chair or host with a "Digc" prefix to their name. If you would like to share, you type "I" and when you are finished, you type "ga" (no quotes). You will be called on in turn. It's that easy! Below you will find a listing of the meetings in DC Talk on AOL. We also have a Morning Meditation called "Daily Thoughts." If you would like to

receive an AA related Thought in your e-mail each morning, send a request to AAMAILBOX@aol.com

We hold meetings every night, 7 days a week, from 8:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.(EDT), live open discussion meetings of Alcoholics Anonymous. We have added two more new meetings at 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday! (To get there keyword DC Talk then click on the DC Talk button).

Contacts AAMAILBOX, DigcStep12, Digcalky, Digcfey, Digcya. Or you can just double click on the blue DC Talk and it will take you there!

In the spirit of fellowship and service,

Michael N.
submitted by Pat M.
Rainbow Group

THE "WE" PROGRAM

I found myself slumped in the driver's seat of my car, crying uncontrollably. My friend sat next to me trying to find those words of comfort. I was lost and I didn't know where to turn. My only options seemed to be either a drink or death.

I couldn't understand how I had ended up like this. I had six months of continuous sobriety. I went to meetings every day. I talked to my sponsor and worked on the Steps. I prayed constantly. I shared at meetings and took on jobs at my Home Group. I read my meditations and Big Book. What else could I have done?



It wasn't until I let some of the tears fall away from my eyes that I realized my friend, a fellow AA, had her hand out to me. She offered to do what she could. For the first time in my sobriety I admitted that I

was not strong enough to do this alone. I put my pride aside and asked for help.

I had heard Old Timers talk of Alcoholics Anonymous as a "We" Program. "This is a We Program," they said, "you don't have to do this alone." But I did.

I walked through the doors of AA with the "Tough New Kid on the Block" attitude. I may have been young but I was a seasoned veteran of pain. I knew to keep my emotions in check. If I let them show, I opened myself up to be hurt. So I walked around as a 5'2"

pillar of strength, wit and sarcasm. I wasn't going to let anyone see the scared little girl inside.

This facade proved effective for my first four months of sobriety. It was when things began to fall apart in another aspect of my life that it began to fail. Friends noticed I was becoming quieter and more withdrawn. When I did share it was centered on anger and resentment instead of strength and hope. I began having second thoughts about the usefulness of sobriety in my life. I struggled to remain strong but I was too beaten and tired to hold the mask up anymore so I let it fall to the ground.

I don't know if I expected to be met with ridicule or to be dismissed as a hopeless cause but neither was the case. I was embraced by the true meaning of the "We" Program. Fellow Alcoholics drew closer as they shared their experience, strength and hope. I quickly realized that I was neither unique nor alone.

I still find that there are many times when I will slip back behind my protective wall. The knowledge of the support that is available to me today is often hidden behind my old ways of thinking. I realize there is a tremendous amount of learning and growing I must do but I have been given the chance to do so through this "We" Program and my Higher Power.

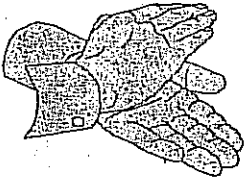
Alison C.
Matt Talbot



"To be gravely affected, one does not necessary have to drink a long time nor take the quantities some of us have. This is particularly true of women. Potential female alcoholics often turn into the real thing and are gone beyond recall in a few years. Certain drinkers, who would be greatly insulted if called alcoholics, are astonished at their inability to stop. We, who are familiar with the symptoms, see large numbers of potential alcoholics among young people everywhere. But try and get them to see it!"

Big Book, pg. 33-34

A HEARTY "WELL DONE!"



Conventions don't just happen. They are the result of many hours of unselfish and dedicated work by a multitude of AA volunteers, whose only thoughts are to make the Convention as informative and pleasant an experience as they can. I continue to marvel at the quality of each convention, they get better every year! The 1996 Buffalo Fall Convention, "The Hand of A.A." was a resounding success in both presentation and participation.

The success of every convention falls squarely on the shoulders of those countless

volunteers, who, in the true spirit of AA, carry the message.

Let me extend a grateful and reverberating thank you from the Central Office, the Central Committee, and everyone who had the pleasure of attending the Fall Convention. These volunteers asked to remain anonymous, but I will recognize them by committee.

The Chair, The Co-Chair, The Treasurer, Registration, Secretary, Program, Greeters, Literature, Publicity, Entertainment, Refreshments, Banquet, Maintenance, and Hospitality. To all of you, a Hearty WELL DONE!

John H. We Care
Co-Chair Central Committee

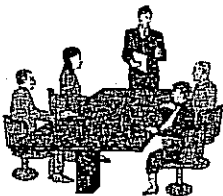
FREEDOM FROM BONDAGE...EVERYWHERE

Incarceration in jails and prisons has been a reality for some of us, and a "yet", for many others. Due to AA men and women carrying the message of hope behind the walls, countless inmates, myself included, were given the message that we didn't have to live like that anymore.

Bringing Alcoholics Anonymous to those unable to come to meetings because of imprisonment not only serves to plant the seed in them, it helps us keep sober by giving our experience, strength and hope away.

Men and women of all ages, races, religions and backgrounds are serving time, away from Church basements. We know that one day at a time, sobriety and a useful life can become real for anyone, regardless of background. Those of us currently working to bring AA into jails and prisons, frankly need help! There are many various lock-ups in our region and not many of us taking our contented sobriety to them.

Here are a few of the ways you can be of service to alcoholics behind bars. Attend AA meetings at one or more correctional facilities in our area. Ask your home group to donate



money to be used for Big Books and other literature that we "outsiders" take for granted. Groups could ask members to contribute old "Grapevines," which are distributed to inmates by AA's who currently go to inside meetings.

If you have any questions, comments or ideas regarding A.A. in W.N.Y. prisons, call our Central Office, 853-0388, to be directed to your particular interest. You may wish to attend the Correctional Facility Committee (C.F.C.) Meeting at 5:30 P.M., the first Sunday of every month at 80 Goodrich St, in Buffalo, a block and a half from Main St.

Also, the rapidly approaching Spring Convention will serve to bring a multitude of information, featuring panels and speakers, devoted to AA in prisons and jails. If your reason for not getting active with our incarcerated fellow AA's is lack of information, consider that reason gone! Need phone numbers? Here are two from C.F.C. members.....Cindy N.(883-5079) and Jim B.(877-1688.)

Remember our 12th Step and 5th tradition tell of the great rewards for carrying the message to those locked in a seemingly hopeless state of mind.

Jim B.
Ridge Group and C.F.C. member

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

ANY LENGTHS

Tom N. 1 yr.

CASTINGS

Alice H. 6 yrs.
Carmen S. 6 yrs.
Thomas A. 7 yrs.
Archie O. 9 yrs.
Albert McC. 10 yrs.
Delphine N. 10 yrs.
Delores R. 15 yrs.
Cecil 19 yrs.
Kenny C. 24 yrs.
Eddie J. 27 yrs.

COLD SPRING

Darnella J. 3 mos.
Gloria D. 6 mos.
Kenneth B. 4 yrs.
Al C. Jr. 6 yrs.
Elvester McR. 21 yrs.
Ty E. 22 yrs.
Vernon G. 35 yrs.

ELLCOTT

Lillie G. 3 yrs.

GIVING

Mike T. 9 mos.
Wes K. 17 yrs.
Joe H. 23 yrs.
Emma L. 33 yrs.

HAPPY HOUR

Shirley J. 6 mos.
Ramon S. 6 mos.
Gary K. 1 yr.
Bridgette R. 1 yr.
Carmen R. 1 yr.
Cecelia B. 10 yrs.

HONESTY

Marvin W. 18 yrs.
Evelyn R. 22 yrs.

H.O.W.

Lorian J. 3 mos.
Angel B. 9 mos.
Ronnie T. 9 mos.
Dave W. 9 mos.
Brandon M. 9 mos.
Chris T. 1 yr.
Gene 4 yrs.
Bob K. 6 yrs.
Ann 6 yrs.
Dennis W. 10 yrs.

IRONHORSE

Mike B. 6 mos.
Jeremy W. 1 yr.
Kevin H. 2 yrs.
Eugene M. 4 yrs.
Ann M. 6 yrs.
Carrie W. 10 yrs.

LET GO & LET GOD

Emma M. 15 yrs.

MARILLA

Jim S. 7 yrs.
Frank H. 11 yrs.

MATT TALBOT

James H. 3 mos.
Richard N. 9 mos.
Tim K. 1 yr.
Jim S. 4 yrs.
Bill L. 5 yrs.
Jeff S. 6 yrs.
Jim S. 6 yrs.
John F. 7 yrs.
Darlyne S. 8 yrs.
David R. 9 yrs.
Ron R. 9 yrs.
Carrie W. 10 yrs.
Frank H. 11 yrs.
Larry T. 23 yrs.

MOD/LIVING IN SOLUTION

Kevin 3 mos.
Tom M. 3 mos.
David P. 6 mos.
Mike G. 9 mos.
Gary K. 1 yr.
Frank B. 1 yr.
Ken F. 3 yrs.
Kevin R. 3 yrs.
Eddie L. 6 yrs.

NORTH BUFFALO

Peter M. 1 yr.
John S. 1 yr.
Robert P. 1 yr.
Burton P. 8 yrs.
Harvey S. 9 yrs.
Peter B. 10 yrs.
Janet T. 10 yrs.
Joan K. 14 yrs.
Marcia W. 18 yrs.
Peter W. 20 yrs.

RISE & SHINE

Joyce T. 3 mos.
Brenda C. 3 mos.
James M. 3 mos.

RISE & SHINE(CONT.)

Chris L. 6 mos.
Curtis W. 6 mos.
Velvet J. 6 mos.
Francine F. 6 mos.
Gloria D. 6 mos.
Mark S. 6 mos.
Rosa A. 9 mos.
James Q. 9 mos.
Shirlann 1 yr.
Darryl S. 1 yr.
Blair D. 1 yr.
Joseph S. 2 yrs.
Greg H. 4 yrs.
Robert H. 5 yrs.
Issaih W. 7 yrs.
Joe H. 23 yrs.

SHERIDAN

Sam V. 3 mos.
Dave Z. 3 mos.
Sharyn B. 6 mos.
Pam S. 6 mos.
Mike K. 1 yr.
Mike M. 2 yrs.
Sheri B. 2 yrs.
Dave M. 3 yrs.
Rob L. 4 yrs.
Dave C. 9 yrs.
Mike B. 10 yrs.
Terri Louise P. 12 yrs.

SUNDAY MORN. BREAKFAST

Joe B. 6 mos.
Mike L. 9 mos.
Tom P. 1 yr.
Ray K. 3 yrs.
Carmen E. 5 yrs.
Elizabeth T. 6 yrs.

THRUWAY

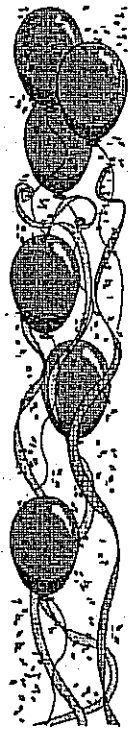
Marty M. 6 mos.
Brian S. 9 mos.
Darryl D. 1 yr.
Jack L. 1 yr.
Mark S. 1 yr.
Rosalle P. 1 yr.
Ed P. 1 yr.
Kevin McC. 1 yr.
Sandy LaJ. 2 yrs.
Joseph S. 2 yrs.
Andy S. 3 yrs.
Gloria B. 4 yrs.
Paul L. 5 yrs.
Michael K. 5 yrs.
Ralph J. 8 yrs.

THRUWAY(CONT.)

Jenny H. 9 yrs.
Jim W. 9 yrs.
Bob M. 10 yrs.
Elvira W. 10 yrs.
Marilyn K. 10 yrs.
Ray O. 22 yrs.

WE CARE

Jim K. 1 yr.
Larry B. 7 yrs.
Laurie P. 10 yrs.
Bill R. 15 yrs.



**REMINDER:
APRIL 1997
ANNIVERSARIES MUST BE
IN THE CENTRAL OFFICE
IN WRITING
NO LATER THAN
MARCH 10, 1997**

**BUFFALO CENTRAL OFFICE
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
295 MAIN STREET
ROOM 845 ELLICOTT SQUARE BUILDING
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14203
853-0388**

MARCH 1997

MEETING CHANGES

TUESDAY - LUNCH BUNCH - 12:30NOON - no longer meets.

WEDNESDAY - MATT TALEOT - will meet on TUESDAYS during Lent.

THURSDAY - THE BOOK MEETING - Closed Discussion - 8:00PM - non-smoking has moved to 4 Rod Road and Liberia Road at St Nicodemus Lutheran Church in Marilla.

FRIDAY - TWIN CITIES II - 8:00 in North Tonawanda no longer meets.

SATURDAY - SATURDAY NIGHT DISCUSSION - 10:00PM has now become a part of the MOD/LIVING IN THE SOLUTION They meet at the Amity Club, 340 Military Road.

PLEASE NOTE

WEDNESDAY - EARLY BIRD - 10 AM - which meets at the United Methodist Church, corner of Tonawanda & Ontario Streets is NON-SMOKING - need support.

SATURDAY - THE CIRCLE OF RECOVERY - 7PM - 21 Westminster at Bailey, will be changing format to "a Big Book Study". Please come and join us. Your support is desperately needed.

SATURDAY - WEST SENECA SATURDAY NIGHT - 8PM - is up dating their membership. This group meets at St Peter's United Church of Christ, 1475 Orchard Park Road -- NEEDS SUPPORT.

SPRING DAY OF LEARNING PLANNING MEETINGS March 10, April 14, and May 12. 6:30PM Napoli United Methodist Church, Route 242, Napoli, NY.

The Day of Learning is planned for Saturday, June 14th at the Firehall in Little Valley, New York.

COMING EVENTS:

MARCH 2 - SUNDAY - CENTRAL COMMITTEE - 80 GOODRICH - 7:00PM

MARCH 4 - TUESDAY - SOUTHTOWN WOMEN'S Group will celebrate their 4th Anniversary. There will be a speaker at 7PM and food to follow. They meet at Southern Erie Clinical Services, 517 Sunset Dr in Hamburg. Bring a dish to share.

MARCH 10 - MONDAY - POWERLESS Group which meets at 5:30PM, St Mary of Sorrows Church School basement, 30 Rich Street at Genesee will celebrate its 5th Year Group Anniversary. Pizza - wings - soda and coffee will follow the speaker. Come join us.

MARCH 15 - SATURDAY - TRI-COUNTY Group is celebrating its' 39th Group Anniversary with an open speaker meeting. Doors open at 7PM. Speaker at 8:00PM Fellowship, friends, socializing, food, music - 9PM to 12AM. Bring a dish to share. Everyone is welcome. St Joseph's basement, East Main Street in Gowanda.

MARCH 23 - SUNDAY - SERENITY AA Group's 32nd Anniversary Breakfast will be held at the Holiday Inn, Niagara Falls Boulevard. Breakfast is at 9:00AM, tickets \$7.00 per person. There will be a Speaker at 11:00AM; if you come only for the speaker, there is no charge. We suggest that you buy your tickets early, because none will be sold at the door.

MARCH 25 - SUNDAY - 12:30NOON - CASTING will be celebrating its' 23rd group Anniversary with an eating meeting and individual anniversaries. They meet at the Jesse Nash Health Center, 608 William.

MARCH 31 - MONDAY - THRUWAY Group Anniversary Meeting - 10.00AM - Infant of Prague, 921 Cleveland Drive, Cheektowaga. Guest speaker, Marcia W, North Buffalo. WNY Archives will be displayed.

APRIL 6 - SUNDAY - CENTRAL COMMITTEE - 80 GOODRICH - 7.00PM

APRIL 4-6, 1997 SPRING CONVENTION - Best Western Lockport Inn, South Transit Road, Lockport, New York. Registration \$10 (includes dance). Registration and Banquet \$30. Dance only \$5 per night. Remit to 1997 Spring Convention, PO Box 1981, Amherst, NY 14226. The address for the Inn is 515 South Transit Road. (incorrect on slinger)

APRIL 15 - TUESDAY - LEW-PORT - will celebrate their 39th GROUP ANNIVERSARY, at 8:00PM at the First Presbyterian Church, South Fifth & Cayuga Streets in Lewiston. An Old-Timer's Meeting will be held. Anyone with 20+years of continuous sobriety who is interested in participating in this meeting is invited to put their name in the "hat". As many names as time permits will be drawn & those old-timers will be asked to share their experience, strength & hope

MAY 23RD THRU MAY 25TH, 1997 CAZENOVIA GROUP is having its 1st WEEKEND at Camp Lakeland in Franklinville, Cost will be \$60.00. This will include food and lodging. The agenda for the weekend will be the first 164 pages of the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous.

JUNE 15 - SUNDAY - SUNRISE COURT GROUP'S FATHERS DAY BREAKFAST
\$8.00 PER PERSON - BUFFET - Held at the Holiday Inn in Cheektowaga, 4600 Genesee Street.

JULY 18, 19 20 - STATE CONVENTION - HOWARD JOHNSON - ALBANY, NY

3RD MONTH - 3RD STEP "MADE A DECISION TO TURN OUR WILL AND OUR LIVES OVER TO THE CARE OF GOD AS WE UNDERSTOOD HIM."

3RD MONTH - 3RD TRADITION "THE ONLY REQUIREMENT FOR MEMBERSHIP IS A DESIRE TO STOP DRINKING."

YOURS IN THE SPIRIT OF A.A.

Delphine
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

ENVELOPE SYSTEM

AS AN INDIVIDUAL MEMBER, SUPPORT YOUR CENTRAL OFFICE BY DONATING TO IT DIRECTLY THROUGH THE **ENVELOPE SYSTEM** IF YOU DO NOT KNOW HOW IT WORKS CALL THE OFFICE AT 853-0388

CENTRAL COMMITTEE

MARCH 2, 1997

Joanne McC, Chairperson opened the meeting at 7:05PM with a moment of silence followed with the Serenity Prayer. John H from We Care read the Preamble. John McC, North Buffalo, read the Purpose of the Central Committee and the Traditions were read by Tyrone also of the North Buffalo Group.

Motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes was made by Tony of Bidwell seconded by Tom H of Cheektowaga.

24 GROUPS ATTENDED - DISTRICT #1 - Giving, Live and Let Live, Open Mind, Sunday Nites DISTRICT #2 North Buffalo, Sheridan DISTRICT#3 Abbott Men's, Any Length, Cheektowaga, Iron Horse, Matt Talbot, Ridge, Southgate, Urban, We Care, West Seneca Saturday Nite DISTRICT#4,#5,#6 - DISTRICT# 7 - Cold Springs, Powerless, Spirit of Hope- DISTRICT#8 - Amherst Snyder, Common Problem, Saratoga - DISTRICT#9 - Everybody's - DISTRICT#10

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

ENVELOPE SYSTEM - Cindy N of Sunrise Court

For the month of February \$670.00 was collected - total year to date - \$1590.00 1996 - yr to date - \$1344.00

STEERING COMMITTEE - Rick S - Amherst Snyder

Meeting opened at 6:40PM by Dick L of Distict#9 with the Serenity Prayer. Present were Rick S, District#8, Joanne McC, Central Committee Chair, John H, Co-chair, Kevin C, treasurer, Delphine H, Exec Secretary.

Discussion on chart for the Central Office receipts since 1990 - 1996. to be included in the next mailing and in the "New Frontiers". Steering Committee requests that the current Fall Convention Chairman reserve the Hotel for the next 3 years. The monies will come from the Central Committee Fund. This was in the form of a motion which passed unanimously.

Discussed process of individuals requesting funds for going to Workshops, Seminars, etc. The conclusion was to have them present it to the body as is being done.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer at 6:55PM.

FINANCIAL REPORT - Kevin C of North Buffalo - read attached

Special note that we had exordinary income this month from the MOD/Living in the Solution Group and the '96 Convention proceeds. Without these items Central Committee would still be losing money.

TREATMENT FACILITIES COMMITTEE - Bob K, Southgate

We were approached by the Salvation Army in regards to taking over the Monday night meeting at 7pm. Mike B and I will go in and talk to Roxanne Walsh, one of the counselors there on Tuesday and see what we do and don't do in theses places. We would like people in that area to also get involved in TFC meetings not only there.

On April 13th we asked the North Buffalo Group if we could come to there Business meeting and give them a presentation on what we are about. Jim R and I will be there and maybe several others from the TFC. We look forward to these presentations because many groups and people in AA miss part of that service in NY. If your group would like us to come down, you can ask me or call me at 825-7343.

Everything seems to be going well at BryLin on Wednesday at 3:30pm. It just needs outside support because it is an open meeting. Due to a lack of people to chair afternoon meetings we had to change some people around so we could fill this commitment on Wednesday instead of Tuesday at 7pm. BryLin could not have us on Tuesday.

SCREENERS - new chairman

CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES COMMITTEE - Jim B - Ridge Grp

Meeting started at 5:45PM. In attendance was Ron E, Correction's Chairman, Cindy N, Corrections Chair from GSA and Jim B. Attica - We have a copy of Attica's Beacon Group Newsletter. Anyone wishing to see a copy, please let us know.

Wende and Collins hve reopened the process for new applicants.

Gowanda - the meeting has been rescheduled for Wednesday night 7pm - looking for volunteers to help facilitate the general population meeting. Gowanda and Buffalo work release have been put on temporary hold until we get volunteers to cover both.

Lydi\$G is the new chair for Erie County Correctional Facility/Women.

1997 Spring Convention - Calling NYC (GSO) to get prison literature.

We discussed format and sign up table (cards for the table)

Bridging the Gap processed 8 applications, 4 of which were women..

Meeting closed at 6:30PM.

CENTRAL OFFICE - Delphine H, Executive Secretary

AA Information	445	12 Step	3
PIC		Literature requests	35
CPC		Referred to other agency	10
Al Anon	20	Referred from other agency	
Ala Teen	3	<i>CENTRAL OFFICE</i>	
ACOA	3	Outgoing Calls	71
<i>ANSWERING SERVICE</i>		Mailing cost	\$179.57
Incoming Calls 455	outgoing 61	Visitors	96

NEW FRONTIER - John H, We Care, Editor

Please remind your group secretaries to get the April anniversaries in writing to the Central Office no later that March 10th. Due to limited space, we are only able to print the current anniversaries.

56TH FALL CONVENTION - no report

COURTESY REPORTS - GSA - Bob K reported on NERRASA

Available at Central Office

RECAP: none

OLD BUSINESS: none

NEW BUSINESS:

- Booking the hotel 3 years in advance
- Chart on Chart on the Central Office yearly financial receipts.

Motion was made and second to adjourn at 8:00PM with the Lord's Prayer.

Yours in AA,

Cindy N, Sunrise Court
Recording Secretary

RE-CAP		2/25/97-3/25/97			
CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES ACCOUNT *484-185-4					
EXPENSES		CHECK #			
Central Office		1157	30.00		
Balance pr checkbook	2/25/97			44.30	
Add Recelpts	2/25/97-3/25/97			190.00	
				234.30	
Deduct expenses	2/25/97-3/25/97			-30.00	
Balance per checkbook	3/25/97			204.30	
Operating credit for	3/25/97	160.00			
TREATMENT FACILITIES ACCOUNT *602-089-5					
EXPENSES		CHECK #			
Central Office		348	64.00		
Robert K	Expenses	349	10.95		
Robert K	Expenses	350	50.00		
			124.95		
Balance per checkbook	2/25/97			126.91	
Add recelpts	2/25/97- 3/25/97			275.00	
				401.91	
Deduct expenses	12/25/97-3/25/97			-124.95	
Balance per checkbook	3/25/97			276.96	
Operating credit for	3/25/97	150.05			

CENTRAL COMMITTEE #504-771-7		2/25/97-3/25/97	
RECEIPTS			
50 Groups contributed			4117.40
Joint Meeting			31.52
New Frontiers subscriptions			24.00
Envelope System			335.00
Literature			1683.77
Miscellan.:			117.00
		Total Receipts	6308.69
* 10-Ellicott Court Corporation	rent		598.00
Community Mental Health Center	rent		35.00
Vermont Pure Spring Inc			14.50
David F Williamson Co Inc			4.92
World Services Inc			1755.00
M & T Bank	Fed WithholdTax		627.28
Secrephone/Mediphone			169.63
NYNEX			174.77
Pitney Bowes Credit Corp			155.12
AT & T			5.34
World Services Inc	Bks		984.80
Hazelden			521.25
World Services	Bal Due		60.56
United States Postal Service	mtr rfl		300.00
Salaries			1837.24
cash			50.00
Bank Charges			65.91
	Disbursements		7359.32
Balance pr checkbook 2/25/97			6678.68
Add Receipts 2/25/97-3/25/97			6308.69
			12987.37
Deduct. expenses 2/25/97-3/25/97			-7359.32
Balance per checkbook 3/25/97			5628.05
Operating debit for 3/25/97	(-1050.63)		
MONEY MARKET	4712.35	10892.75	savings
CERT OF DEPOSIT	6180.40	5628.05	checking
	10892.75	16520.80	

pg 1			Correctional Facilities		Treatment Facilities	
GROUP	MARCH '97	Accum	MARCH '97	Accum.	MARCH '97	Accum.
12 Step - Holiday Village						
12 Step - Medina						
3rd Step						
4th Step Stumblers						
6th Step						
AA Lunchtime						
A Day At A Time						
A Vision for You						
Abbott Mens Discussi	20.00	40.00	20.00	40.00	20.00	40.00
Acceptance/Welcome		171.00				
Achievement						
Action						
Age Doesn't Matter		100.00				
Albion		12.00				
Alexander						
Amherst Tree of Life						
Amherst Snyder	85.00	149.00				
Amsdell Lakeshore						
Any Age	500.00	500.00				
Any Length	40.00	110.00		15.00		15.00
Anybody's Group						
Arcade						
As Bill Sees It	20.00	20.00				
Attitude Adjustment						
Attraction						
Awakening						
Beginner's Table						
Beginning in Sobriety I						
Beginning in Sobriety II						
Beginnings-Women's						
Better Days (Bilingual)						
Bidwell						
Bidwell Monday Disc						
Big Book - Lockport						
Big Book Study (Thursday Night)						
Big Book Workshop						
Blasdell						
Blasdell Monday Nite	50.00	50.00				
Boulevard Women's						
Brass						
Broadway-Bailey		15.00				
Brocton Discussion						
But for the Grace of G	30.00	80.00				
By The Book-Buffalo						
Came To Believe						

pg 2			Correctional Facilities		Treatment Facilities	
GROUP	MARCH '97	Accum.	MARCH '97	Accum.	MARCH '97	Accum.
Cassadaga						
Casting						
Cathedral Park		10 50				
Caz Manor						
Cazenovia	40.00	125.00				
Central Park						
Central Park II						
Chapter IX						
Cheektowaga		100.00		50.00		
Chevy #1	200.00	200.00				
Circle of Recovery						
Clarence Men's Disc II						
Clarence Men's Discsion		400.00				
Cold Springs	25.00	50.00				
Common Problem		50 00				
Community Center						
Cornplanters Again						
Courage						
Decision, Cholces, Changes						
Delaware Discussion						
Derby	100.00	100.00				
Design For Living						
Desire						
DeVeaux Discussion						
Discovery		48.00				
Downtown Discussion						
Downtown Men's Discussion						
Dunkirk		10.00				
Early Bird						
Easier Softer Way						
East Amherst						
East Aurora	25.00	25.00				
Easy Does It	20.00	45.00				
Eden-North Collins						
Ellicott						
Ellicottville						
Emergency						
Eternal Vigilance		100.00				
Everybody's	20.00	60.00				
Eye Opener						
F.U.N.						
Faith						
Faith in Action						
Father Baker	200.00	200.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Feelings						

pg 3		Correctional Facilities		Treatment Facilities		
GROUP	MARCH '97	Accum.	MARCH '97	Accum.	MARCH '97	Accum.
Fellowship in the Spirit						
Fireside	247.40	373.99		50.00	25.00	75.00
Fireside P.M.						
First Things First						
Fredonia Discussion						
Freedom	25.00	75.00				
Fresh Start						
Friendly		25.00				
Friendship						
Friendship Fireside						
Frontier						
Gardenville						
Gay, Lesbian, Sober &	30.00	30.00				
Getting Better		30.00				
Giving		50.00				
Go to Any Length		120.00				
Golden Slipper		100.00				
Good Life						
Grand	10.00	30.00				
Grand II Joy Of Living		100.00				
Grateful						
Guiding Light						
H.A.N.D.	100.00	200.00				
H.O.W.						
Half & Half		50.00				
Hamburg						
Hamburg Literature Study Group						
Handicappers Sat. Nite						
Happy Hour						
Harmony						
Helping Hand						
High Noon						15.00
High View		40.00				
Higher Powered						
Hill Billy						
Hold On						
Holiday Village		500.00				
Holland						
Honest Desire						
Honesty	30.00	90.00	10.00	30.00		
Hope - Big Book Study						
Horizon Sunset						
How It Works		170.00				
Humbly Willing						
In the Solution						
Inner City						

pg 4 GROUP			Correctional Facilities		Treatment Facilities	
	MARCH '97	Accum.	MARCH '97	Accum.	MARCH '97	Accum.
Inspiration		50.00				
Intoxicated on Life						
Iron Horse						
1st Step						
IT		25.00				
It's About Time						
Just for Today						
Keep it Simple, Sister		30.00				
Keep on Comin'						
Kenmore	150.00	150.00				
Kensington						
Lake Shore						
Lake View						
Let Go & Let God	20.00	20.00				
Leuname Women's AA						
Lew-port 5						
Liberty Women's		200.00				
Life Today						
Lighten Up						
Live and Let Live						
Living Sober						
Lock City						
Lockport #1						
Lockport Discussion						
Lockport Ladies	100.00	100.00				
Lockview						
Lovejoy		100.00				
Lower River						
Main Street						
Marilla	25.00	50.00				
Matt Talbot	50.00	125.00				
Mc Kinley Winners						
Medina New Life						
Mercy						
Mid-day						
Midnight						
Miracle						
MOD/Living in the Solution		990.00		5.00		5.00
Morning After						
New Awakening						
New Beginnings						
New Frontier		20.00				
New Frontier Womens						
New Life						

pg 5			Correctional Facilities		Treatment Facilities	
GROUP	MARCH '97	Accum.	MARCH '97	Accum.	MARCH '97	Accum.
New Life - New Beginning		50.00				
New Westside		50.00				
Niagara Frontier Men's		15.00				
Nite People						
North Buffalo		800.00		125.00		125.00
North Java-Monday						
North Java-Sunday						
One Day at a Time (C)	250.00	250.00			50.00	50.00
Open Arms						
Open Mind						
Opportunity						
Orchard Park Step		50.00				
Pass It On						
Patchin		100.00				
Pathway to Peace						
Pendleton-Chapter V						
Perry						
Pioneer						
Positively Living II						
Positively Living III						
Powerless						
Primary Purpose						
Progress	10.00	10.00				
Purpose		100.00				
Rainbow						
Ray of Hope		30.00				
Remember When						
Renaissance/Post Liv	500.00	1000.00				
Renewal						
Ridge		170.00		30.00		30.00
Ripley's "Believe It Or Not"						
Rise & Shine						
Riverside						
Rochester Meeting						
Rur-al Is Plural	30.00	30.00				
Sally						
Salvation Army						
Saratoga	50.00	195.00				
Saturday Night Alive						
Saturday Night Disc						
Searching for Serenit	20.00	20.00				
Second Chance						
Seneca 12 & 12						
Serenity						

pg 6			Correctional Facilities		Treatment Facilities	
GROUP	MARCH '97	Accum.	MARCH '97	Accum.	MARCH '97	Accum.
Serenity Circle	10.00	10.00				
Serenity Trail						
Sheridan		40.00				
Silver Creek Friendship						
Sober Trail						
Sober Winners						
Sobriety Men's Disc						
Sobriety on the Lake	20.00	20.00				
South Buffalo	30.00	90.00	30.00	90.00	30.00	90.00
South Town	20.00	30.00		10.00		
South Town Women's				10.00		10.00
Southgate		30.00				
Southwestern		80.00				
Spirit of H.O.P.E.						
Spiritual Progress (women's)		50.00				
Springville						
Springville Saturday Afternoon		60.00				
Springville Wed Noon						
St. Barnabas						
St. Mark's		60.00				
Starting Over						
Step						
Stepping Stones	53.00	213.00				
Suburban						
Sunday Morning Bkft.						
Sunday Niters						
Sunday Third						
Sunrise Court		25.00				
SUNY-Amherst Campus						
Surrender & Hope	20.00	20.00				
Survivors						
T'nT						
T.P.H.						
TGIF						
Thankful		70.00				
The Book Meeting		25.00				
The Journey						
The Present		25.00				
The Way						
There's A Solution						
Thruway	300.00	700.00	20.00	40.00	20.00	40.00
Thursday Afternoon I	100.00	100.00				
Today						
Today's Woman						
Tonawanda						

PGF GROUP	CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES		TREATMENT FACILITIES			
	MARCH '97	Accum.	MARCH '97	ALUMN.	MARCH '97	ALUMN.
Trall's End	25.00	25.00				
Tri-County	10.00	55.00				
Tri-County Young People		100.00				
Tri-Step Beginners						
Try Again		35.00				
Tuesday Men's Disc						
Tuesday Women's Disc.						
Turning Point		150.00				
Twin Cities		160.00				
Unity		360.00			10.00	30.00
University	120.00					
Urban		50.00				
V.I.P.	30.00					
Valley	35.00	35.00				
Varysburg						
Veterans		70.00		30.00		30.00
Victory						
Vision of Hope (women's)		54.00				
Wake Up Call	42.00					
We Admitted						
We Are Not Saints		10.00	10.00	20.00	20.00	60.00
We Care	30.00					
We Choose Life						
We Need You						
Wehrle	10.00	10.00				
Welcome						
Welcome Home						
West Seneca Sat. Nite						
Westfield						
Westminster						
WHY	40.00	40.00				
Williamsville	100.00	300.00				
Willing To Grow		300.00				
Wilson						
Wilson Smith University Alumni						
Women's Westside Dis	100.00	100.00				
Working						
You'll Never Walk Alone						
Youngstown						
50 Grps centri	4117.40	12986.49	190.00	645.00	275.00	715.00
Total year to date						

CENTRAL COMMITTEE RECEIPTS FROM 1990 THROUGH 1996

YEAR	GROUPS	MISC	LITER	ENV SYS	FALL CON	JOINT I	SUBSCRII	TOTAL	DISBURSEME	SHORT FALL
1990	33918.31	1853.41	45709.94	6563.87		318.58	665.00	89029.11	96103.18	-7074.07
1991	33269.68	11498.97	46361.03	6675.19	4970.00	283.77	893.00	98981.64	97038.75	1942.89
1992	30873.85	3406.80	41651.68	6206.58	6419.24	301.99	766.00	89626.14	92207.15	-4523.90
1993	31053.12	950.00	42552.81	6358.16	396.00	294.36	776.10	82380.55	87617.39	-5236.84
1994	27449.33	1164.00	42756.44	3944.00	8346.90	335.26	608.00	86159.93	85985.41	174.52
1995	33304.06	2536.00	31382.50	5867.00		151.56	464.00	73843.35	79942.59	-6273.76
1996	33781.77	1417.93	30278.11	6452.60	3676.57	315.26	597.00	73908.59	81660.27	-7751.68
					1007.99					

The chart above shows monies received at Central Office for a seven year period from various sources. It also shows a very large deficit for five of these years. This trend cannot continue if we expect to maintain a Central Office. These continuous losses use up the prudent reserve very fast. Once this reserve is depleted Central Office will possibly have to close.

If all of the groups listed in the meeting schedule book were to send in a monthly donation there would be no real need to worry about Central Office closing. Let's pull together and keep our office afloat!