

NEW FRONTIERS

A.A. of the Niagara Frontier

March 2017

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



Problems Other Than Alcohol: What Can Be Done About Them?

by Bill W. -- A.A. Grapevine, February, 1958

PERHAPS THERE IS NO SUFFERING more horrible than drug addiction, especially that kind which is produced by morphine, heroin, and other narcotics. Such drugs twist the mind and the awful process of withdrawal racks the sufferer's body. Compared with the addict and his woes, we alcoholics are pikers. Barbiturates, carried to extremes, can be almost as bad. In AA we have members who have made great recoveries from both the bottle and the needle. We also have a great many others who were -- or still are -- victimized by "goof balls" and even by the new tranquilizers.

Consequently, this problem of drug addiction in its several forms lies close to us all. It stirs our deepest interest and sympathy. In the world around us we see legions of men and women who are trying to cure or to escape their problems by this means. Many AAs, especially those who have suffered these particular addictions, are now asking, "What can we do about drugs -- within our fellowship, and without?"

Because several projects to help pill and drug takers are already afloat -- projects which use AA's Twelve Steps and in which AA members are active -- there has arisen a whole series of questions as to how these efforts, already meeting with not a little success, can be rightly related to the AA groups and to AA as a whole.

Specifically, here is a list of questions:

- (1) Can a non-alcoholic pill or drug addict become an AA member?
- (2) Can such a person be brought, as a visitor, to an "open" AA meeting for help and inspiration?
- (3) Can a pill or drug taker, who also has a genuine alcoholic history, become a member of AA?
- (4) Can AAs who have suffered both alcoholism and addiction form themselves into "special purpose" groups to help other AAs who are having drug trouble?
- (5) Could such, a "special purpose;" group call itself an AA group?

- (5) Could such, a "special purpose;" group call itself an AA group?
- (6) Could such a group also include non-alcoholic drug users?
- (7) If so, should these non-alcoholic pill or drug users be led to believe that they have become AA members?
- (8) Is there any objection if AAs who have had the "dual problem" join such outside groups, such as Addicts Anonymous or Narcotics Anonymous?

While some of these questions almost answer themselves, others do not. But all of them, I think, can readily be resolved to the satisfaction of everyone if we have a good look at the AA Traditions which apply, and another look at our long experience with the special purpose groups in which AAs are active today -- both within and without our society.

Now there are certain things that AA cannot do for anybody, regardless of what our several desires or sympathies may be.

Our first duty, as a society, is to insure our own survival. Therefore we have to avoid distractions and multi-purpose activity. An AA group, as such, cannot take on all the personal problems of its members, let alone the problems of the whole world.

Sobriety -- freedom from alcohol -- through the teaching and practice of the Twelve Steps, is the sole purpose of an AA group. Groups have repeatedly tried other activities and they have always failed. It has also been learned that there is no possible way to make non-alcoholics into AA members. We have to confine our membership to alcoholics and we have to confine our AA groups to a single purpose. If we don't stick to these principles, we shall almost surely collapse. And if we collapse, we cannot help anyone.

[Continued on Pg. 2]



(Continued from cover; Problems Other Than Alcohol: What Can Be Done About Them?)

To illustrate, let's review some typical experiences. Years ago, we hoped to give AA membership to our families and to certain non-alcoholic friends who had been greatly helpful. They had their problems, too, and we wanted them in our fold. Regretfully, we found that this was impossible. They couldn't make straight AA talks; nor, save a few exceptions, could they identify with new AA members. Hence, they couldn't do continuous Twelfth Step work. Close to us as these good folks were, we had to deny them membership. We could only welcome them at our open meetings

Therefore I see no way of making non-alcoholic addicts into AA members. Experience says loudly that we can admit no exceptions, even though drug users and alcoholics happen to be first cousins of a sort. If we persist in trying this, I'm afraid it will be hard on the drug user himself, as well as on AA. We must accept the fact that no non-alcoholic, whatever his affliction, can be converted into an alcoholic AA member.

Suppose, though, that we are approached by a drug addict who nevertheless has had a genuine alcoholic history. There was a time when such a person would have been rejected. Many early AAs had the almost comical notion that they were "pure alcoholics" -- guzzlers only, no other serious problems at all. When alcoholic "ex-cons" and drug users first turned up there was much pious indignation. "What will people think?" chanted the pure alcoholics. Happily, this foolishness has long since evaporated.

One of the best AAs I know is a man who had been seven years on the needle before he joined up with us. But prior to that, he had been a terrific alcoholic and his history proved it. Therefore he could qualify for AA and this he certainly did. Since then, he has helped many AAs and some non-AAs with their pill and drug troubles. Of course, that is strictly his affair and is no way the business of the AA group to which he belongs. In his group he is a member because, in actual fact, he is an alcoholic.

Such is the sum of what AA Cannot do -- for narcotics addicts or for anybody else.

Now, then, what can be done? Very effective answers to problems other than freedom from alcohol have always been found through "special purpose" groups, some of them operating within AA and some on the outside.

Our first special-purpose group was created 'way back in 1938. AA needed a world service office and some literature. It had a service problem that could not be met by an AA group, as such. Therefore, we formed a Board of Trustees (The Alcoholic Foundation) to look after these matters. Some of the Trustees were alcoholics, and some were non-alcoholics. Obviously, this was not an "AA group." Instead, it was a group of AAs and non-AAs who devoted themselves to a special task.

Another example: in 1940, the New York AAs got lonesome and installed themselves in a club. The club had directors and dues-paying AA members. For a long time, the club members and directors thought that they were an AA group. But after awhile, it was found that lots of AAs who attended meetings at "Old 24th" didn't care one hoot for the club, as such. Hence, the management of the club (for its social purpose) had to be completely separated from the management of the AA group that came there to hold its meetings. It took years of hassling to prove that you couldn't put an AA group into the club business and make it stick. Everywhere today, club managements and their dues-paying members are seen as "special purpose" groups, not as AA groups.

The same thing has happened with drying-out places and "Twelfth Step Houses" managed by AAs. We never think of these activities as "AA groups." They are clearly seen as the functions of interested individuals who are doing helpful and often very valuable jobs.

Some years ago, numbers of AAs formed themselves in "retreat groups" having a religious purpose. At first, they wanted to call themselves "AA groups" of various descriptions. But they soon realized this could not be done because their groups had a dual purpose: both AA and religion.

At another time a number of us AAs wanted to enter the field of alcohol education. I was one of them. We associated ourselves with some non-alcoholics, likewise interested. The non-alcoholics wanted AAs because they needed our experience, philosophy, and general slant. Things were fine until some of us AAs publicly disclosed our membership in the educational group. Right away, the public got the idea that this particular brand of alcoholic education and Alcoholics Anonymous were one and the same thing. It took years to change this impression. But now that this correction has been made, plenty of AA members work with this fine group and we are glad that they do.

It was thus proven that, as individuals, we can carry the AA experience and ideas into any outside field whatever, provided that we guard anonymity and refuse to use the AA name for money-raising or publicity purposes.

I'm very sure that these experiences of yesterday can be the basis of resolving today's confusions about the narcotic problem. This problem is new, but the AA experience and Tradition which can solve it is already old and time-tested. I think we might sum it up like this:

We cannot give AA membership to non-alcoholic narcotics-addicts. But like anyone else, they should be able to attend certain open AA meetings, provided, of course, that the groups themselves are willing.

AA members who are so inclined should be encouraged to band together in groups to deal with sedative and drug problems. But they ought to refrain from calling themselves AA groups.

There seems to be no reason why several AAs cannot join, if they wish, with a group of straight addicts to solve the alcohol and the drug problem together. But, obviously, such a "dual purpose" group should not insist that it be called an AA group nor should it use the AA name in its title.

Neither should its "straight addict" contingent be led to believe that they have become AA members by reason of such an association.

Certainly there is every good reason for interested AAs to join with "outside" groups, working on the narcotic problem, provided the Traditions of anonymity and of "no endorsements" are respected.

In conclusion, I want to say that throughout AA's history, most of our special-purpose groups have accomplished very wonderful things. There is great reason to hope that those AAs who are now working in the grim regions of narcotic addiction will achieve equal success.

In AA, the group has strict limitations, but the individual has scarcely any. Remembering to observe the Traditions of anonymity and non-endorsement, he can carry AA's message into every troubled area of this very troubled world.

Bill W.

archives



On the Thursday morning of March 22, 1951, seventy-eight year old Dr. William Duncan Silkworth passed away from a heart attack in his New York home.

It was Dr. Silkworth that introduced the invaluable idea to Bill that alcoholism is an allergy of the body and obsession of the mind and directed him to use of the medical sledgehammer rather than the spiritual angle in dealing with us alcoholics.

In our Big Book foreword 'The Doctor's Opinion', Dr. Silkworth gives the statement that thrums deep in the soul of us real alcoholics when **"he confirms that we who have suffered alcoholic torture must believe - that the body of the alcoholic is quite as abnormal as his mind."** and **"In our belief, any picture of the alcoholic which leaves out this physical factor is incomplete"** [both from page xxvi of Alcoholics Anonymous].

His theory interests us because it **"explains many things for which we cannot otherwise account."** [also page XXVI] **"We believe, and so suggested a few years ago, that the action of alcohol on these chronic alcoholics is a manifestation of an allergy; that the phenomenon of craving is limited to this class and never occurs in the average temperate drinker"** [from page xxviii of Alcoholics Anonymous].

It was Dr. Silkworth that suggested to Bill that he emphasize this medical aspect of alcoholism rather than the spiritual experience that he had, when trying to help a new prospect. Bill hadn't had success until, when he was face to face with Dr. Bob and saw that he too was trying to cure the alcoholism by spiritual means, but couldn't get sober. Following Dr. Silkworth's advice, Bill told Dr. Bob what alcoholism was and just how fatal it could be. Apparently this did work and Dr. Bob sobered up in June of 1935. The critical note being in Dr. Bob's story in the book Alcoholics Anonymous where he put one paragraph in italics that shows the value in the medical hammer of truths used by Bill: **"Of far more importance was the fact that he was the first living human with whom I had ever talked, who knew what he was talking about in regard to alcoholism from actual experience. In other words, he talked my language."** [from the story section's first chapter: Dr. Bob's Nightmare].

We know that Dr. Silkworth was a prodigious and relentless worker, but still it was a shock to discover that in his lifetime of work with those who suffer our disease, he had talked with 51,000 alcoholics - 45,000 at Towns Hospital and 6,000 at Knickerbockers! [from The Little Doctor Who Loved Drunks story in the May 1951 Grapevine]. AA would not be what it is today without Dr. Silkworth.

Submitted by David

3rd STEP:

"Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood him."

Share your Experience, Strength and Hope

Please submit your announcements by the **12th**
for next month's issue
Articles can be submitted at any time

e-mail address: buffaloaa@hotmail.com

or mail to:
**Buffalo Central Office
681 Seneca St (lower)
Buffalo, New York 14210**

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 A.A. books and pamphlets are reprinted with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc. Articles reprinted with permission of A.A. Grapevine, Inc. are subject to Grapevine copyright.)

Heard @ a Meeting

**"The problem is in our head
and
the solution is in our feet."**

IN MEMORIAM Things We Can Not Change

To all of our members who have lost family and loved ones

John C.: 19 years: Courage Group; Past Delegate"

Fran M.: 36 years: Thruway Group

Our thoughts and prayers are with you

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES



Acceptance/Welcome

John G. 3Y
Siobhan C. 6y
Rich B. 7y
Mike B. 10y
Farra F. 11y
Christy H. 14y
Elizabeth 23y
David K. 30y
Tom Mac. 32y



Alexander

Jerry M. 19y

Amherst/Snyder

Kevin M. 3m
Jim E. 5y
Bob M. 13y
JoEllen H. 14y
Jeff R. 23y

Big Book-Lockport

Mandy N. 3y

Central City Café

Jerome H. 6y

Cold Springs

Cecil R. 5y
Dorothy S. 21y
Albert C. 26y

Daily Reflections

Leroy J. 7y
Pat S. 10y

Easy Does It

Eric A. 3y
Mark C. 3y
Diane B. 4y
Sue E. 4y
Pat M. 5y
Mary S. 7y
Peter M. 7y
Heather A. 11y
Caryl B. 14y
Tina L. 24y



Eyeopener South

Laura W. 1y
Sarah B. 1y
Bob O. 3y
Rick S. 5y
Ralph B. 23y
Martha K. 26y

Golden Slipper

Cookie B. 5y
Lou S. 6y
Mike R. 10y

Harmony

Linda A. 9y
Greg P. 10y
Vivian J. 18y
Tina W. 28y

How It Works

Ed R. 5y
Rich B. 7y
Steve J. 9y
Tom M. 19y

Ironhorse

Kurt S. 1y
Chris T. 6y
Peter M. 7y
John D. 10y
Herb M. 12y
Kathy R. 12y
Ann D. 26y

Just For Today

Dan S. 25y

Kensington

Peaches R. 35y

Marilla

J. Frank H. 31y

New Life

Adam 6m
Heidi 6m
Gary 28y

North Buffalo

Megan F. 3m
Adam W. 3m
Sharon T. 2y
Harvey S. 29y
Joan K. 34y

Marching Forth

Ellen H. 7y

OP Step

Peter C. 4y
Allison C. 5y
Sheri B. 22y

Purpose

Patrick F. 3y
Faith B. 3y
Lisa M. 4y
Arlene P. 38y

Questions & Answers

William W. 2y

Remember When

Sonya J. 5y
Rhonda S. 6y
Darnella J. 6y
Charles T. 8y
Steve S. 9y
Greg P. 10y
Kevin E. 9m
Mary K. 16y
Eddie L. 26y
Bob M. 30y



Rise & Shine

Laurie B. 3m
Kevin O. 6m
Eli M. 9m
Garrett A. 9m
Ann M. 1y
Joie S. 3y
Karen R. 5y
Charles M. 10y
Kevin R. 12y
Bernie D. 14y

Serenity

Alex O. 6y
Beverly Z. 6y
Jane M. 33y

Sheridan

Nicole D. 5y
Pat S. 10y
Jim M. 18y
Sheri B. 22y
Jim E. 48y



Southgate

Kevin G. 4y
Frances M. 38y

Spiritual Progress

Sandy W. 4y
Beverly D. 8y
Laurie M. 14y
Sue L. 17y

Springville New Life

Brandon S. 4y

Sunday Morning

Dave R. 29y

The Grove

Pete H. 1y
Mark O. 2y
Terry T. 3y
Ginny K. 27y

Thruway

Keith D. 3y
Debbie K. 3y
Maggie M. 17y
Jim S. 29y
Ray O. 42y

Unity

Debby K. 2y
Tom S. 2y

Williamsville

Tom S. 3y
Chuck P. 3y
Judy H. 9y
Dean C. 14y

GROUPS CELEBRATING

A Day At A Time: 34y
Attitude Adjustment: 33y
Big Book/Spiritual Studies:13y
Bodhisattva: 17y
Clarence Men's Discussion: 37y
Dunkirk Monday Nite: 68y
Forestville Serenity: 33y
The Grove:7y
Grand II Joy Of Living: 30y
Holland; 22y
Honest Solutions:14y
Just For Today/Albion: 19y
Keep On Comin': 19y
Lake View: 36y
Lockport#1: 70y
Medina Big Book: 20y
Medina New Life: 29y
Powerless: 24y
Renaissance: 28y
Rise & Shine; 25y
Rochester Meeting: 24y
Rural Is Plural: 24y
Serenity: 54y
Set Aside: 19y
Sheridan: 43y
Sober Saturday: 18y
Sober Trail: 40y
Southgate: 40y
Surrender & Hope:25y
Steps 1,2 &3: 17y
Thruway: 44y
Unity: 43y



Please remember to have the anniversaries submitted by the 12th

END OF BUSINESS DAY 4:30 PM

of the month **previous**



Concept III

To insure effective leadership, we should endow each element of A.A.—the Conference, the General Service Board and its service corporations, staffs, committees, and executives—with a traditional "Right of Decision."



PLEASE READ AT YOUR MEETING...HELP KEEP EVERYONE INFORMED :-)

BUFFALO CENTRAL OFFICE
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
(716) 853-0388
9:00 AM- 12:30PM, 2:00 PM- 4:30 PM

681 SENECA STREET (Lower)
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14210
Fax: 853-0389
buffalooa@hotmail.com

Real-Time schedule? Check your website: www.buffaloaany.org

March 2017

IF YOUR GROUP IS NOT MEETING, PLEASE INFORM THE CENTRAL OFFICE. THIS INCLUDES THOSE MEETING DAYS WHEN YOUR SITE IS CLOSED FOR A HOLIDAY.

MEETING CHANGES

- **Step Action group has changed it's name an start time.** Will now be Thurs. On Walnut and starts at 7PM. **Open Discussion.** Clubhouse, 344 Walnut St., Lockport 14094
- **New Group: I Am Responsible;** Saturday's, 7PM, OD.; United Methodist Church, 221 Morgan St., Tonawanda, NY 14150.
- **Grace Point Group,** Friday's 7PM; **NO LONGER MEETS,** 39 Kenmore, Kenmore 14226.
- **Open Mind Group, No Longer Meets.** Wed., 8 PM, Unitarian Universalist Church, 695 Elmwood @ W. Ferry, Buffalo.
- **Common Problem Group, No Longer Meets.** Wed. 8PM, Christ the King Church, Main St @ Lamarch, Snyder.
- **New Group: North Evan's Men's Disc.;** **Saturday's, 9:30AM. The Wesleyan Southtown Campus, 2063** South Creek Rd (GPS: 2063 Shadagee Rd., Eden,) North Evans)14057 @ Rt 20.
- **New Group; Cemetery Gates,** Saturday's at 1:00 PM, South Bflo, 14210 Open Discussion.
- **New Group; Forestville In The Solution;** Monday's at 7:00 PM. Wesleyan Church, 9497 Prospect Rd., Forestville 14062 OD.
- **Sober Saturday** will now be an **Open Discussion.**
- **North Java Monday** will now **start at 8:00 PM.** Holy Family Parish, 4316 Rt. 98.
- **The Grove Group** will now have **Child-Care** on Monday's 6PM. Grove St. Christian Church, 85 Grove St., Tonawanda 14150.
- **If He Were Sought Group** has moved to **Emergency Pizza, 1868 Seneca St. South Buffalo, 14210.**
- **Lakeshore Group** in Hamburg has moved to **The Wesleyan Southtown Campus, 2063** South Creek Rd (GPS: 2063 Shadagee Rd., Eden,) North Evans)14057 @ Rt 20. Same time; 8 PM Monday Evenings.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES: COMMITTEE MEETINGS

~ Mar 3, **Envelope System Meeting;** FRIDAY, 4:00 PM, Tim Horton's 1750 Niagara Falls Blvd. Tonawanda

~ Mar 5; **Committees that meet prior to Central Committee 5:30 PM**
St. Michael's Parish, 651 Washington St., Buffalo 14203
Steering Committee (4:30 PM)
Public Information Committee meeting
Treatment Facilities Committee
Nightwatch Committee
Followed By
Central Committee Meeting @7:00 PM
St. Michael's Parish, 651 Washington St., Buffalo 14203
(hosted by Sober Train Group)

~Mar 4, **General Service Assembly:** SATURDAY 12 Noon, Infant of Prague Church, 921 Cleveland Ave Cheektowaga NY 14225 with plenty of room and parking. Area fellowship encouraged to please attend to assist with Goal 3 roll-out - members of all 8 counties of WNY needed for information distribution. (Hosted by Buffalo/Niagara Frontier Central Committee)

~ Mar 5 **Corrections Committee Meeting,** 5:30 PM, Buffalo Central Office. 681 Seneca St., Buffalo

~ Mar 6 **Convention Committee Meeting,** 6:00PM, Buffalo Central Office. 681 Seneca St., Buffalo

~ Mar.11, **Archives Committee Meeting;** 2nd SATURDAY, 10 AM, Buffalo Central Office, Work night's; 2nd & 4th Monday's.

COMING EVENTS

- ~ Mar. 17-19, **9th Annual Cataract City Convention**. Sheraton at the Falls, 300 Third St., NF 14303. Registration onlt; \$20, Registration w/Banquet \$55. Flyer on website.
- ~ Apr 9, **54th Annual Serenity Palm Sunday Breakfast**: The Saturn Club, 977 Delaware Ave, Buffalo, 14209. Doors open at 9am, breakfast served at 9:30 am, Speaker at 11 am. Tickets \$15. PRESALE TICKETS ONLY. NO TICKETS WILL BE HELD AT THE DOOR OR AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AT THE DOOR. (There are a limited number of tickets that will be available to ensure that everyone is able to view and hear the speaker).
- ~ Apr. 28-30, **Women of AA Annual Spring Spiritual Weekend** at Stella Niagara - Lewiston. Come for a weekend to share sobriety with fellow recovering AA women through speakers, small groups, spiritual advisors and meditation. Information & Flyer on website.
- ~ May 19-21, **NY North Al-Anon Family Groups Spring 2017 Assembly/Convention W AA Presence**, Millennium Hotel, 2040 Walden Ave, Cheektowaga 14225. Flyer on website; www.buffaloaany.org.
- ~ Nov. 3-5, **76th Buffalo Fall Convention**. Millennium Hotel, 2040 Walden Ave, Cheektowaga 14225. Flyers & info will be posted when they become available.

Support AA through the Envelope System:

This is another way to help carry the AA message by making a personal donation.
Please call Central Office for more details; 853-0388

3rd STEP: "Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood him."

3rd TRADITION: "The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking."

3rd CONCEPT: To insure effective leadership, we should endow each element of A.A. - the conference, the General Service Board and its service corporations, staff, committees, and executives- with a traditional "Right of Decision."

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

"Though our decision was a vital and crucial step, it could have little permanent effect unless at once followed by a strenuous effort to face, and to be rid of, the things in ourselves which had been blocking us."

Our liquor was but a symptom. So we had to get down to causes and conditions.

-Alcoholics Anonymous page 64

"Any life run on self will can hardly be a success".

-BB pg 60

WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!!

ENVELOPE SYSTEM

HELP ENSURE AA'S FUTURE

BY PERSONALLY SENDING

YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

and/or

BY SERVING ON

THE ENVELOPE COMMITTEE

Call Buffalo Central Office: 716 853-0388

NIGHTWATCH

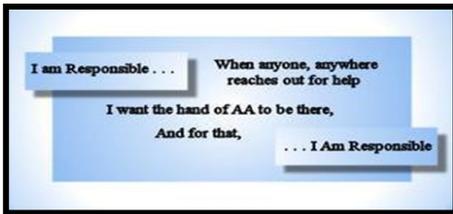
Will your group help?

Sign up for One Month!

Everyone had a first contact.

You can be someone's

Central Committee Minutes February 5, 2017



The meeting opened up on 2/5/2017 at 7:00pm with a recitation of the Responsibility Statement and the moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. Amy then read the purpose of Central Committee, Lila M read the Traditions and Raeanne F Read the Preamble of Alcoholics Anonymous. The meeting was then turned over to Sue M who gave a fantastic talk on Tradition 2. Come join us next month to Hear Dennis

talk about the Third Tradition. A motion to accept last month's meeting minutes was made by Mike M and then Seconded by Alan. There were 20 groups represented which broke down as follows by zones. Zone 1, Main and High. Zone 2. Depth and Weight, How it Works, North Buffalo, Questions and Answers, Renaissance, Step action, Three Legacies. Zone 3. Any Lengths, Buffalo Group, Cayuga Wake up call, Matt Talbot, Thruway. Zone 4. Orchard Park Step, Tuesday Men's Discussion. Zone 5, Twin Cities Group. Zone 6, Changing Our Ways, Lake Shore. Zone 7, Fresh Start. Zone 8 Amherst Snyder

Committee Reports

Envelope System – The Envelope Committee met on Friday Feb. 3. In Attendance was: Pat G. Diane & Al d. & Pete P.

1. Diane gave a three year review of the Envelope Committee contributions.

2014 \$7,100.00

2015 \$6,800.00

2016 \$7,900.00

2. Three New Home Groups were added to the contributors this year.

3. We continue to investigate making online contributions available through Pay Pal.

4. Each of our committee members (4) continues to attend Group Meetings to make our Presentation. If you are looking for service work for yourself or a sponsee please give them this phone number Pat G. [998-2677](tel:998-2677). We need 'boots on the ground'.

5. If you would like us to do a presentation at you home group please see one of us after this meeting. Or, if you prefer, you can make your own presentation just ask for the Presentation Envelope which contains a script to read.

6. Our next meeting is Friday March 3rd at 4:00 at Tim Horton's 1750 Niagara Falls Blvd.

Yours in service, Pat G.

Steering Committee– We had a forum about creating a secret Facebook profile, we need representatives from zone 1&2. ALAN

Treatment – The treatment committee is currently responsible for bringing the hand of Alcoholics Anonymous into 6 facilities. With the help of 30 groups, there are collectively 10 "tfc meetings" a week going on at these facilities.

We met 2/4/17 at Central office there were 11 members representing 8 groups. We voted to take on a commitment at Reflections in Lockport Sundays 8pm. We currently have 2 out of 4 slots filled at Turning point for a Tuesday 8pm commitment and are looking for 2 more groups. We will be starting that meeting in March with the treatment committee coving any open spots until they are filled. Our chair and some other committee member will be attending NERAASA Feb 24th-26th to get better informed and see where Buffalo TFC can grow and be of service.

Over the next year or two we would like to approach every group, currently holding a commitment through us, with an informational presentation at their business meetings. Also from now on all Groups interested taking a commitment with us will be given this presentation. The presentation can be downloaded a head of time from the Central Committee web page in the forms section.

Outside of joining our committee, there are a few areas where AA members, and groups, can be of service through treatment.

1. Individuals may take a speaking commitment at Horizon Village Terrace House on a Thursday at 6pm.

2. All groups who currently have commitments through the Treatment Committee can, and should, send a representative to our monthly committee meeting to inform us about anything more we could be doing to be of service to them, and also to allow us to inform their groups, through them, about anything pertinent to their continued Twelfth step work through TFC.

3. Treatment Committee has taken on a new commitment at Turning Point Rehab facility on Tuesdays and a commitment at Reflections on Sundays, all groups who have an interest in taking a monthly spot at one of the facilities should contact TFC.

4. Area Treatment is forming a Bridging the Gap program for all of Area 50. At this moment any member willing to help clients leaving Treatment Facilities "bridge the gap" between treatment and AA can sign up on the new "Bridging the Gap Volunteer Form" found on the Area 50 web page.

www.wnyarea50aa.org. We will be approaching facilities within the next couple months to get this program started.

Thank you to all groups and individuals who are involved in this vital 12th step work. To get involved, or if there are any issues you need to contact us about, please email us at buffalotfc@gmail.com or come to our monthly meeting the 1st Sunday of the month 3/5/17 at St. Michaels Church 5:30pm.

Yours in service, Jesse S. Treatment Committee Chair

Corrections – no report

Central Office – Central Office Report; February 2017

TOTAL CALL'S INCLUDING AFTER-HOURS; AA Call's: 454, 12-STEP: 14, ALANON: 7, VISITORS: 137, VOLUNTEERS: 4, Email's: 404, Website Hit's: 10, 6714/ of them 8,983 Unique Visitors, Total number of visits: 20,628; Number of forms received to add to our 12th Step List: 2. we sent out the Newsletter via online sign-up to 69 person; of them only 32 were open :(

GROUPS WE ARE IN NEED OF CONTACTS FROM ARE: Action-4 & Cathedral Park-1 Reminder, if a group goes a year without a contact person, they will be removed from the schedule. **A VISION FOR YOU-6 has been announced for well over a year and will be removed from the next printing of the schedule.**

I figure based on how many schedules are left that we'll have new schedules toward the end of March.

A reminder that all our deadline dates are the "12th" like everything else in AA. 12 Steps, 12 Traditions...deadlines are the 12th :)

I had one person come in, but would like a few more... I specifically am looking for volunteers to be available for days I am sick or on vacation. They would need to come in a few hours to train. It involves answering the phone and filling literature orders. Currently I only have 2 volunteers to be able to call, of them one is a snowbird.

Yours in the fellowship of the Spirit... Terry B.

Night watch – Night watch Committee met today at 5:45, since we have basically all months covered up until the summer, we discussed how we are going to get in contact with people on the 12th step list In order to update or make necessary changes to their personal information. If anyone here would like to join the committee or if your homegroup is interested in a night watch presentation please let me know. My phone number is 602- 3623. Raeanne

New Frontiers ~ March 2017

(Central Committee Minutes Continued...)

PIC/CPC – There was no meeting tonight but I've made contact with everyone that was here for the meeting last month including the two that weren't and the one who joined tonight. I sent out workbooks for both pic and cpc as well as been in contact with the area chair. I will be attending neraasa at the end of the month to get a better understanding of my position and the committee as well as staying in contact with the previous committee and area chair. We are getting positions of secretary and treasurer set up as well as continuing the ecmc presentation commitment the second Tuesday of the month. Yours in service Randy

Current Convention - 2017 Buffalo Fall Convention Report 2/5/2017 – We held our 1st committee meeting on 1/11/17. All committee members introduced themselves and the position they held. We discussed some preliminary things. At our next meeting on 2/06/2017 we will be voting on a theme and colors for the convention. If anybody has any suggestions good, bad or the latter, please contact me at 716 866 6612. Thank you for the opportunity to serve Alcoholics Anonymous! Your 2017 BFC Chair David G

GSA Liaison – The assembly did not meet this month. The next assembly meeting is March, 4th 12 noon. Infant of Prague Church. Hosted by the Thruway group.

Archives – c/o Buffalo Central Office - 681 Seneca Street Buffalo, N.Y. 14210 - archives@area50wny.org

February 5, 2017 regarding January Report to the Buffalo Central Committee

Thank you for the honor and privilege of serving you this past month.

We reported to just 3 of the 4 intergroups in these 8 counties of Area 50 and the only convention committee meeting held in the past month.

Please Save the date of May 6th, 2017 for the next Archives Breakfast where Bob W. (the speaker I cannot BELIEVE we were able to get) will be sharing his experience, strength and hope regarding his life and efforts around the globe for Alcoholics Anonymous. We request that the archives from this area attend with a display if possible.

On January we displayed at Williamsville Group 63rd Anniversary! Then we will be at Lakeshore's anniversary on February 27th and at the Day of Sharing in NY- Penn on Feb 24+25th for that incredible event!

Offended by last month's Buffalo New Frontiers archives article? May not want to read this next month's article – head's up.

To Grapevine readers – if you see an article that's local to us in these 8 counties of WNY, please forward a message to me so it can be tagged into the database of local Grapevine writings.

We've taken a new concentrated initiative to gathering group histories which you'll be hearing more about. Keep in mind that getting group histories OF YOUR GROUP is a priority to even the Conference level, so if you don't know what history has been 'archived' for your group, that information is just an email away, and we are thrilled to help. Group histories are kept by the archives in New York City (General Service Office) but we have copies of what they have and of course will give that to you quickly. And if you are one of the few we don't have, we'd be honored to get it for you! Please note though that the majority of 'group history' files I've seen these past 3 years have just a note regarding who was the first contact listed for the group, with no other information like the founders of the group, where it is located (no address of the meeting place) so updating that is usually an easy thing we are glad to assist your group with doing. We can send you a form and will forward it correctly for you at no cost whatsoever. Contact me at ARCHIVES@AREA50WNY.ORG please.

Donations this month were interesting thanks to Gen-Wyoming Intergroup! A display of hand carved pieces of wood with the slogans on them, along with a set that has the 12 Rewards (NOT AA LITERATURE) along with some picture frames, three 8mm movie tins and a literature display rack for our use or distribution were voted on so we'll be requesting the wall space from Buffalo's Central Committee location where archives rents a room. Already someone requested how to get one of those literature racks so that has been re-homed! Pictures will be coming!

Best thing to report is that the Area 50 Archives Committee is now no longer the only Archives Committee in these 8 counties of Western New York, since the NY-Penn Intergroup officially has an archives committee with one of my sober brother now actually the chair. I'm a willing, grateful member of that committee. In our January 14th meeting in Belmont New York, we reviewed the items in their care and discussed many topics including the archives manual and created a mission statement. It was a tasty, productive effort with four of us in attendance.

We'd love to display the archives at your group anniversary or special event - remember we appreciate a 30days in advance notice so transportation can be set up! Your PRIMARY PURPOSE efforts may be assisted by this sharing the history of AA at YOUR MEETING more than you can know.

We are a financially autonomous committee with our only resources being group contributions and special events. We receive NO funding from any part of AA for ANYTHING, so we rely upon your group and/or individual support to fund our archival work, pay rent for the repository, and participate in archival activities. Note that no funds are used to get members to events and each member pays their own way into events except out of area issues – donations are used ONLY for rent and archival efforts as approved by the entire committee and are protected by the multi-signature checking account. Please send any contributions to Area 50 Archives at 681 Seneca Street in Buffalo NY 14210. We thank you for your support.

And the usual reminder to all AA members of these 8 counties of Western New York – throw NOTHING group-related away without considering your unborn alcoholics to come, which is the purpose we work hard at keeping our area documented accurately and the reason for the existence of this ARCHIVES Committee.

Yours in service, Lila M., your grateful Area 50 Archives Committee Chair

Recap Questions

Central Office – What hours are you trying to fill in the office? – Terry “I need people to be able to run the office when I have to take a day off”

Old Business

What is going on with the Ad hoc committee to move the Central office, No one has given us any updates or developments? – Mike M

New Business

*New meeting to be voted into the schedule : Cemetery Gates – Open ,2161 Seneca Street Buffalo NY 14210 ,1pm Saturdays None opposed all in favor! Motion Passes

***New Motion** proposed by the Steering Committee – “We Make a Motion to Form a secret Facebook group For Representation of Central Office AA Buffalo.”

Motion tabled By Harvey and seconded by Pat

Cash Flow Statement		Jan-17
Begin Bal Cash on hand		11,967.00
Contributions		
Groups	5,811.55	
Joint Meeting	50.00	
Envelope System	1,415.56	
New Frontiers Subs	23.00	
Literature/Medallions/Pins	3,880.99	
Literature Sales Tax	300.51	
Literature Postage	49.66	
Sales+/-	(2.07)	
Archives Room Rent:		
Com. Meetings	8.00	
Mail/Misc.	25.00	
Tax Returns		
Transfer from PR		
"Gratitude Month" (NOV)		
Conventions/Day of Sharing	3,561.32	
Monthly Income	15,123.52	
Expenses		
Building Rent/Utilities	1,489.41	
St Michaels Rent	35.00	
Payroll Gross	2,824.62	
Employment Taxes	264.10	
Unemployment Surchar	(2.40)	
NYS Sales Tax		
Insurance		
State Ins Fund(Travelers)		
Health	623.30	
D&O Insurance	1,080.00	
Liability	856.00	
Postage	371.57	
Phone/Internet	138.63	
Accounting		
Paychex	224.52	
Advt		
Talking Phone Book		
Dex Media	182.80	
website		
Local Edge		
Yellow Pages		
Literature Expenses		
Grapevine		
World Services Inc		
Hazeldon	618.24	
Printers		
Medallions	222.23	
Petty Cash		
Office Supplies	50.30	
Copier leasing	(209.00)	
Copies/ service contract	161.00	
Bank Fee's including credit ca	256.52	
literature returns reimbursement		
GSA Host		
Convention		
CO Seminar		
Monthly Expenses	9,186.84	
Monthly Income (Loss)	5,936.68	
End Balance	17,903.68	
Petty Cash	3,000.00	
Total Balance	20,903.68	
PRUDENT RESERVE	23,143.04	
Assets: Literature & Medallions	13,544.02	
Literature Receivable (outstanding)	722.62	
Removed from Stock	286.30	
Corrections Facilities	2,260.75	
Contributions	509.40	
Bank Fee's	3.00	
Expenses		
Balance	2,767.15	
Treatment Facilities	541.60	
Contributions	185.00	
Expenses	280.00	
Bank Fee's	3.00	
Balance	443.60	

YTD: 2017

Intergroup wants to express our appreciation for those groups and individuals who have made generous financial contributions, and give a **special thank you** to all the members who have volunteered their time this year to help the sick and suffering alcoholic.

Bill W. wrote of Intergroup Offices, "Though not costly, these agencies are absolutely essential to our continued expansion—to our survival as a Fellowship. Their costs are a collective obligation that rests squarely upon all of us. Our support of services actually amounts to a recognition on our part that AA must everywhere function in full strength—and that, under our Tradition of self-support, we are all going to foot the bill"

"Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix" pamphlet

7TH TRADITION CHALLENGE

"Now that we are sober in A.A., the word 'support' has to do with sharing, people, self-respect, gratitude, and what we are privileged to give - not take - in material terms."



We are self-supporting through our own contributions ~ Many of our branches are suffering from lack of support (GSO, Area, H&I, Central Office). How much does one drink cost? If it were not for Alcoholics Anonymous, we'd be drinking plenty!

Drop the cost of one drink into your home groups basket when it comes by . . . you can't afford not to!



..Income to Expenses...we ended 2016 in the **RED !!**

3rd Step Prayer

God, I offer myself to Thee -to build with me and to do with me as Thou wilt. Relieve me of the bondage of self, that I may better do Thy will. Take away my difficulties, that victory over them may bear witness to those I would help of Thy power, Thy love, and Thy Way of life. May I do Thy will always!

Alcoholics Anonymous pg. 65

Concept III: To insure effective leadership, we should endow each element of A.A. —the Conference, the General Service Board and its service corporations, staffs, committees, and executives—with a traditional "Right of Decision."

- Do we understand what is meant by the "Right of Decision"? Do we grant it at all levels of service or do we "instruct"?
- Do we trust our trusted servants ?

New Frontiers ~ March 2017

GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS 2017

GROUP	CENTRAL		CORRECTIONS		TREATMENT	
	JAN	YEAR	JAN	YEAR	JAN	YEAR
		0.00		0.00		0.00
5 7 Clans		0.00		0.00		0.00
5 12 Steps/12 Traditions		0.00		0.00		0.00
1 4th Step Stumblers/F.U.N.		0.00		0.00		0.00
5 6th Step		0.00		0.00		0.00
5 5th Tradition (Youngstown)		0.00		0.00		0.00
2 AA BREAKFAST		0.00		0.00		0.00
4 A Day At A Time		0.00		0.00		0.00
3 Abbott Corners		0.00		0.00		0.00
3 Abbott Men's		0.00		0.00		0.00
2 Acceptance/Welcome		0.00		0.00		0.00
8 Achievement		0.00		0.00		0.00
4 Action		0.00		0.00		0.00
2 Age Doesn't Matter		0.00		0.00		0.00
5 Albion Grapevine		0.00		0.00		0.00
5 Albion New Beginnings		0.00		0.00		0.00
3 Alexander		0.00		0.00		0.00
All Is Well		0.00		0.00		0.00
8 Amherst Snyder	81.63	81.63		0.00		0.00
6 Amsdell Step		0.00		0.00		0.00
2 Any Age		0.00		0.00		0.00
3 Any Length	30.00	30.00		0.00		0.00
4 Arcade		0.00		0.00		0.00
6 As Bill Sees It	150.00	150.00		0.00		0.00
8 Attitude Adjustment(Williamsville)		0.00		0.00		0.00
5 Attitude Adjustment(NF)		0.00		0.00		0.00
6 Attraction	50.00	50.00		0.00		0.00
6 Backdoor		0.00		0.00		0.00
7 Beginning In Sobriety II	75.00	75.00		0.00	25.00	25.00
8 Beginning's Women		0.00		0.00		0.00
5 Big Book Lockport		0.00		0.00		0.00
6 Big Book Study		0.00		0.00		0.00
3 Blasdell		0.00		0.00		0.00
3 Blasdell Saturday		0.00		0.00		0.00
1 Bodhisattva		0.00		0.00		0.00
5 Boulevard Helping Hand		0.00		0.00		0.00
2 Boulevard Women		0.00		0.00		0.00
2 Brass		0.00		0.00		0.00
7 Buffalo Group		0.00		0.00		0.00
3 Buffalo Creek		0.00		0.00		0.00
3 By the Wayside		0.00		0.00		0.00
6 Carry the Message		0.00		0.00		0.00
7 Casting		0.00		0.00		0.00
Castile		0.00		0.00		0.00
1 Cathedral Park		0.00		0.00		0.00
8 Cayuga Wake- Up Call	125.00	125.00		0.00		0.00
3 Caz Manor		0.00		0.00		0.00
3 Caz Manor Sunday	125.00	125.00		0.00		0.00
7 Central City Cafe'		0.00		0.00		0.00
6 Changing Our Way's		0.00		0.00		0.00
2 Chapter IX		0.00		0.00		0.00
3 Cheektowaga	75.00	75.00		0.00		0.00
6 Changing Our Way's		0.00		0.00		0.00
8 Clarence Men's		0.00		0.00		0.00
8 Clarence Men's II		0.00		0.00		0.00
7 Cold Spring	20.00	20.00		0.00		0.00
1 Commitment	140.00	140.00		0.00		0.00
1 Corplanters		0.00		0.00		0.00
3 Courage		0.00		0.00		0.00
2 Daily Reflections		0.00		0.00		0.00
2 Daily Reprieve		0.00		0.00		0.00
2 Dawn of Hope	260.00	260.00		0.00		0.00
2 Depth & Weight		0.00		0.00		0.00
6 Derby	174.00	174.00		0.00		0.00
6 Derby Lunch		0.00		0.00		0.00
6 Desire		0.00		0.00		0.00
2 Desperate		0.00		0.00		0.00
1 Downtown Men's		0.00		0.00		0.00
6 Dunkirk Monday Night		0.00		0.00		0.00
6 Early Bird Step		0.00		0.00		0.00
5 Early Rising Obliging		0.00		0.00		0.00
8 East Amherst		0.00		0.00		0.00
8 East Amherst Traditions		0.00		0.00		0.00
4 East Aurora	200.00	200.00		0.00		0.00
2 Easy Does It	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00
6 Eden	25.00	25.00		0.00		0.00
4 Ellicottville		0.00		0.00		0.00
6 Everybody's		0.00		0.00		0.00
1 Express		0.00		0.00		0.00
8 Eyeopener	215.23	215.23		0.00		0.00
4 Eyeopener South	1073.50	1073.50	429.40	429.40		0.00
8 Fireside PM		0.00		0.00		0.00
8 Fireside	145.00	145.00		0.00		0.00
5 First Step (NF)		0.00		0.00		0.00
6 Forestville Sunday Serenity		0.00		0.00		0.00
6 Fredonia Discussion		0.00		0.00		0.00
2 Freedom		0.00		0.00		0.00
7 Fresh Start	75.00	75.00		0.00		0.00
1 Friday Night Lights		0.00		0.00		0.00
5 Friendly		0.00		0.00		0.00

GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS 2017

GROUP	CENTRAL		CORRECTIONS	TREATMENT	
	JAN	YEAR		JAN	YEAR
3 Gardenville	275.00	275.00		0.00	0.00
8 Georgetown		0.00		0.00	0.00
Getting Better		0.00		0.00	0.00
6 Gettin With It		0.00		0.00	0.00
1 Giving		0.00		0.00	0.00
6 Go to Any Length		0.00		0.00	0.00
5 Golden Slipper		0.00		0.00	0.00
2 Grace Point		0.00		0.00	0.00
2 Grand		0.00		0.00	0.00
2 Grand II Joy of Living		0.00		0.00	0.00
2 Grateful		0.00		0.00	0.00
6 Hamburg		0.00		0.00	0.00
8 H.A.N.D.		0.00		0.00	0.00
7 Harmony		0.00		0.00	0.00
4 Helping Hand	25.00	25.00		0.00	0.00
8 High Noon	150.00	150.00		0.00	100.00
8 High View		0.00		0.00	0.00
4 Hillbilly		0.00		0.00	0.00
1 H.I.P.		0.00		0.00	0.00
6 Holiday Village		0.00		0.00	0.00
4 Holland		0.00		0.00	0.00
6 Honest Solutions		0.00		0.00	0.00
2 Honesty		0.00		0.00	0.00
Hope's Horizon		0.00		0.00	0.00
2 How It Works/Men's		0.00		0.00	0.00
1 HUDSON & WADSWORTH		0.00		0.00	0.00
3 IF HE WERE SOUGHT		0.00		0.00	0.00
Indepence (NF)		0.00		0.00	0.00
3 Inspiration		0.00		0.00	0.00
6 Intoxicated on Life		0.00		0.00	0.00
3 Ironhorse	66.05	66.05		0.00	5.00
8 IT		0.00		0.00	0.00
3 Just For Today/ Cheektowaga		0.00		0.00	0.00
5 Just For Today/ Albion		0.00		0.00	0.00
4 Keep It Simple Sister		0.00		0.00	0.00
2 Keep On Coming		0.00		0.00	0.00
2 Kenmore		0.00		0.00	0.00
8 Kensington		0.00		0.00	0.00
6 Lakeshore		0.00		0.00	0.00
6 Lakeview		0.00		0.00	0.00
3 Lancaster Dailey Reprieve		0.00		0.00	0.00
Lasalle		0.00		0.00	0.00
Lawyer's		0.00		0.00	0.00
6 LewPort		0.00		0.00	0.00
2 Liberty Women		0.00		0.00	0.00
4 Life Today		0.00		0.00	0.00
8 Lighten UP		0.00		0.00	0.00
1 Living Clean		0.00		0.00	0.00
2 Living in the Solution		0.00		0.00	0.00
Living Sober		0.00		0.00	0.00
5 Lock City		0.00		0.00	0.00
5 Lockport #1		0.00		0.00	0.00
5 Lockport Discussion		0.00		0.00	0.00
5 Lockport Ladies	100.00	100.00		0.00	0.00
5 Lockport Tuesday		0.00		0.00	0.00
5 Lockview	100.00	100.00		0.00	0.00
7 Love	30.00	30.00		0.00	0.00
7 Lovejoy		0.00		0.00	0.00
5 Lower River		0.00		0.00	0.00
1 Main and High		0.00		0.00	0.00
4 Main Street		0.00		0.00	0.00
8 Maple		0.00		0.00	0.00
3 Marching Forth	25.00	25.00		0.00	0.00
4 Manila	35.00	35.00		0.00	0.00
3 Matt Talbot	90.00	90.00		0.00	0.00
6 Mckinley Winners		0.00		0.00	0.00
5 MEDINA STEP WORK/BIG BOOK		0.00		0.00	0.00
5 Medina New Life		0.00		0.00	0.00
8 Mercy		0.00		0.00	0.00
3 Mid-day		0.00		0.00	0.00
8 Midnight Discussion		0.00		0.00	0.00
2 Moming After		0.00		0.00	0.00
3 New Beginnings/St. Vincent		0.00		0.00	0.00
5 Newfane Living Sober		0.00		0.00	0.00
5 New Freedom		0.00		0.00	0.00
5 New International		0.00		0.00	0.00
3 New Life	20.00	20.00		0.00	0.00
5 New Outlook		0.00		0.00	0.00
1 New Westside		0.00		0.00	0.00
Niagara Falls Convention		0.00		0.00	0.00
Niagara Intergroup		0.00		0.00	0.00
5 Niagara Frontier Men's Disc.	74.00	74.00		0.00	0.00
2 North Buffalo	98.00	98.00		0.00	0.00

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Buffalo, NY 14210

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